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THE TIMES

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TONY WHITE

Facing the music: three girls from among 300 children from Islington, north London, who were preparing yesterday to give a concert with the London Symphony Orchestra

Highest tides this century threaten to flood east coast

BY TIM JONES

FLOOD warnings will be issued to coastal authorities throughout Britain next week because the proximity of the Moon threatens the country with the highest tides this century.

The great swath of low-lying England between the Humber and the Thames estuaries is most at risk. Coastal defence repair teams are putting right the damage caused by the surge tide two weeks ago that drove hundreds of people out of their homes. The threat is so great that senior officials of the Meteorological Office's storm tide warning service are meeting in Bracknell tomorrow to assess the danger.

Paul Foster, National Rivers Authority flood defence manager for the Anglian region, said that if the recent surge tide is repeated next week, sea levels could exceed those that caused the East Coast flood disaster of 1953 when 68 people lost their lives. That experience demonstrated that, although defences have been much improved since then, the sea can never truly be tamed.

The alert has been triggered because next week the Moon's orbit brings it exceptionally close to the Earth at 222,830 miles. It will also be a full Moon, which has a greater effect on tides and will coincide with the approaching equinox.

Those factors will combine on Monday, but the full lunar effect will not be felt until Wednesday and Thursday. By then, experts fear, the weather could change, bringing with it the threat of high seas. The favourable anticyclone over the Atlantic is beginning to break up and, with it, the associated ridge of high pressure running through Scotland and into the central Baltic.

The main fear is of a strong southerly or westerly wind pushing the sea out towards the Continent and then veering to the north, getting behind the incoming exceptional tide and threatening low-lying communities. To a lesser extent, strong south-westerly winds could signal danger for some communities along the south coast.

Experts say that in themselves next week's tides present no general flood risk because most coastal defences are designed with sufficient margins on top of the highest predicted astronomical tide levels. On a calm day, the highest tides ever predicted could pass almost unnoticed. They do fear the winds, however, and tomorrow they will be paying particular attention to short-term weather patterns.

Mike Taylor, who has responsibility for the Thames Barrier, said the predicted high tides would be half a metre below that which required it to be closed. "However, the wind could change everything," he said.

Weather reports, page 22



Major talks up Britain

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

SHARES surged yesterday as John Major hit out at the "doom-mongers" who painted a false picture of a nation in decline.

The prime minister's irritation at the recent spate of media criticism of himself and the government appeared to boil over as he said that talking Britain down had become a "curious British disease", which was damaging the country's prospects.

"I am amazed at how many pessimists attempt to paint a picture of a nation in decline. In their messages of gloom, they are knocking Britain but, much worse, they are damaging our prospects. What the doom-mongers say is not true and we should not accept it."

He was speaking as the stock market had one of its best days, the FT-SE 100 index soaring 36.3 to a record high of 2918.6 and the latest Treasury review of economic progress gave an optimistic picture, with overall activity slightly stronger than official forecasts.

The buoyancy was tempered by concern about unemployment at yesterday's Confederation of British Industry council meeting.

Shares soar, page 20
Stock market, page 26

'Breakthrough' in battle against IRA

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

■ Recent arrests and arms seizures may have weakened the IRA's ability to bomb London but detectives warn against any public complacency

SCOTLAND Yard's anti-terrorist branch has claimed an important breakthrough in the battle to halt the IRA's mainland bombing campaign. As five suspects face fresh questioning by detectives today, police are assessing a haul of guns, up to 30lb of Semtex, and bomb-making equipment destined to sustain a prolonged bombing campaign.

Police sources said last night that the five suspects arrested in the past two days, all in their 30s, were either English or Scottish republican sympathisers believed to have been recruited by the IRA. This marks a change in tactics for the IRA, which has almost always used Irishmen and women to mount their attacks.

One senior anti-terrorist officer said last night: "It's a pretty impressive success. At the rate they were going, the cache would have kept them supplied for some considerable time." Another said that detectives were delighted by the operation. "The last thing we want to do is boast, but there have been some very significant successes recently."

However, police have cautioned the public about complacency and told them to remain vigilant. The IRA has often shown the ability to hit back after reverses.

Detectives have begun sifting through a large haul of material uncovered during a series of raids across London in the past 48 hours. The operation began on Tuesday after the Yard released about 30 seconds of video film of two men captured on security cameras outside Harrods in January, shortly before a bomb exploded in a litter bin. Within three hours of the first broadcast, detectives were given a tip-off that led them to Walford Road, Stoke Newington. Two men were held after three shots were fired at police.

One of the two is known to have been living in a ground-floor flat in Walford Road for some time and has been active on the fringes of political support for the republican movement in Britain. Police believe that both men were those seen outside Harrods before the explosion, in which three people were injured.

In the flat, police later found two handguns, three rifles and more than 10 kilograms of high explosive and material for putting together a score of small devices, which would have been used to keep up pressure and tension on the streets of London for many months. Other arrests followed at two more homes in the London area, both of which have been sealed by the police and are being searched.

The raids come at a time when several bomb suspects are in custody. One man is awaiting trial for the shooting of a constable when a lorry-load of explosives was stopped in Stoke Newington. Two men are being held after an ambush at a West Country quarry last month, and three men were arrested hours before the attack on a gasworks in Warrington, Cheshire, last week.

After the Harrods bombing, anti-terrorist branch officers maintained a blackout on the existence of the video film, with the co-operation of the media. Working with scientists, detectives enhanced the film and used the likenesses of the suspects in a nationwide search for the bombers.

Last night detectives were confident of a crucial breakthrough in the 20-year war against the IRA in Britain, which began in 1972. Since then an estimated 114 people have been killed in terrorist attacks on the mainland. The targets included police headquarters at Scotland Yard, the Old Bailey, a BBC office and an army recruiting post in Whitehall.

The aim now is to uncover the network of safe houses and arms caches that police believe the terrorists have established. The discovery of the latest cache comes within days of the uncovering of 20kg of high explosive hidden on an allotment in Nottingham. The explosive was divided up, ready to be made into bombs.

The five men arrested in London are likely to be questioned not only about the Harrods attack but about other recent incidents. During the current campaign, the IRA has often used small devices to cause disruption and traffic chaos. Since the Harrods bombing there have been fresh attacks in London, including a bomb explosion in a litter bin close to a busy shopping area at Camden Lock, north London, last weekend. Eighteen people were injured. Several weeks ago another small device exploded outside a house in South Kensington, but police have not been able to discover the intended target.

On February 3, passengers were taken off a train from Victoria to Ramsgate at Beckenham, southeast London, shortly before a bomb destroyed one of the carriages. There was another blast a few hours later at South Kensington Underground station.



Clark not surprised by the decision

No prosecution for Clark in Matrix affair

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

ALAN Clark, the former trade minister, will not be prosecuted for inconsistent evidence in the abortive Matrix Churchill trial over arms-related exports to Iraq, the Crown Prosecution Service said yesterday.

The decision effectively eliminates any threat of a delay in Lord Justice Scott's enquiry into the Matrix Churchill affair and, temporarily at least, lifts the prospect of criminal charges being brought against Mr Clark.

Robin Cook, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, claimed that the decision put the government back in the dock over the affair. Mr Cook said: "John Major and the long line of ministers and ex-ministers implicated in the arms-to-Iraq affair have been hiding from the fall-out behind Alan Clark. Now he is in the clear, and the government is directly in the firing line. They cannot pass the blame to Alan Clark any more."

The CPS said that the police "had been unable to establish with sufficient certainty which of the inconsistent statements made by Mr Clark was not true".

Mr Clark last night said that he was "completely innocent". He described the events as "preposterous", adding: "I welcome this, but I had no doubt that I was completely innocent of the alleged offence, so I am not surprised."

Cult leader waits for God's order

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WACO, TEXAS

THE leader of the Branch Davidian cult, David Koresh, has announced he will not leave the fortified compound in Texas where he and his followers have been under siege since Sunday until God tells him to surrender.

The FBI said yesterday that, although Mr Koresh had agreed to bring his followers out of the Mount Carmel compound if local Christian radio stations broadcast a message from him, he changed his mind after God spoke to him.

The hour-long sermon by Mr Koresh, 33, who claims Armageddon is imminent, was broadcast on radio and television on Tuesday, but none of the cult members, thought to number 110 and including at least 20 Britons, emerged afterwards.

Saved by Bible, page 3

Patten opens assault on teacher training

BY PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE government will challenge the structure of teacher training by creating a network of schools to train teachers in the way teaching hospitals train doctors. The proposal is likely to lead to further confrontation between John Patten, education secretary, and some teachers' unions.

The initiative is seen by ministers as part of a wide-ranging assault on one of the last bastions of the entrenched educational thinking of the 1960s and 1970s. They believe that some teacher training colleges and higher education institutes are still tied to child-centred theories of 20 years ago.

Mr Patten will announce today an alternative to the present teacher training colleges under which groups of secondary and primary schools will handle the training of 250 teachers from September or next January, at a cost of £1 million.

The scheme is likely to be followed by comprehensive legislation in the next session of parliament and, in time, money will be switched from existing teacher training colleges to new networks of training schools. The proposals will be followed by plans to extend vocational education and choice for 14-year-olds and to improve further education for those aged between 16 and 19.

The limited scheme follows approaches by groups of schools wanting to train teachers without involving conventional training bodies. Only graduates could become teachers in this way and their qualifications would have to be approved by a higher education institute or similar body.

The latest proposals go further than those announced by Kenneth Clarke to enable people to switch to teaching in mid-career.

Training battle, page 9

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OPENING IN OXFORD SOON

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Anti-VAT feeling mushrooms in the bookish Lords

In all institutions from which the cold wind of open criticism is excluded, an innocent corruption begins to grow like a mushroom — for example in senates and learned societies — Nietzsche.

Yesterday, I looked in on the Lords.

The Commons is too alarming. On Tuesday a backbencher tried to sing *Yellow Submarine* in Latin, and yesterday a Scottish MP drew a huge knife on his surprised colleagues — to illustrate the perils of Glasgow street-life, he said.

But over in the Lords a tranquil dignity reigned.

The corruption Nietzsche refers to is not corruption in the ordinary sense. Judgments in second chambers are reached in the honest belief that the public interest is what senators serve. But what a comfortable, misty view of the public interest emerges, among the red leather and gold leaf.

Yesterday, peers paused to consider the ghastly possibility that VAT should be levied on books. Your sketchwriter has no wish to enter the fray himself, beyond observing that few habits can be more directly related to income and social status than the purchase of books. Their exemption from VAT is a starkly regressive tax-break.

One would expect that among the dozen or so peers on both sides of the House with opinions to express, *somebody* would have acknowledged that there was *some* argument for including books in the VAT net.

Baroness David (Lab) put the original question to Lord Caithness, saying VAT would "adversely affect education and cultural pursuits in this country". Caithness promised to tell the Chancellor. The baroness offered a sermonette on the value of reading, peers mooing encouragement.

Baroness Birk (Lab) went further. Reading was habit-forming, she said. One reflected that so was tobacco, but this was not the baroness's point: she meant a *virtuous* habit. Virtue might decline, she seemed to fear, if it were taxed. This is an argument for exempting cut flowers, croquet and Scrabble, not to say bonnets, ribbons and bows, from VAT, but the baroness did not advance it.

Lord (Max) Beloff then rose to support Lady David. Dry by disposition and ideology, one would expect Lord Beloff to be in favour of VAT on everything, probably twice: but no! One's heart sank as he declared an interest as "deputy chairman of the *Hands Off Reading* campaign". As his lordship's own publications fill 15 lines of small print in *Who's Who*, and all his books are very long, one saw his point.

Lord Jenkins of Putney (Lab) has only written a few books, but was just as upset at the thought of VAT. Earl Russell (Bertrand's son) wondered whether, if books were to be taxed, there could be a special exemption for "learned, academic books".

Lord Strabolgi ("*recreations:* books, music, travel" — *Who's Who*) was concerned about small booksellers. The Bishop of Chester was concerned about "spiritual and moral" books. Everyone was concerned about school books.

It would have taken someone of the unsentimental rigour of (say) Max Beloff to insist that a small trader pays, proportionately, no more VAT than a large one; to refresh the bishop's memory on that passage about rendering unto Caesar; and to remind educationists that as the Exchequer pays for school books, the Exchequer can reimburse itself.

I looked for a Max Beloff...

...But couldn't see one for the mushrooms.

Concern grows as London becomes base for eastern criminals

Murdered Russians were suspected of fraud

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

TWO Russian brothers murdered in their luxury west London flat were suspected of being involved in a multi-million-pound fraud.

The financial affairs of the two, who were each shot three times in the back of the head, have been under investigation by British police for several weeks.

The men, named unofficially last night as Ruslan Utsyev, 39, and his brother Nasabek, 21, were said to be in Britain on behalf of Chechenia, a region seeking independence from the Russian Federation, to organise the design and printing of currency, passports and stamps.

Police discovered that the men, whose deaths were disclosed on Tuesday, were moving huge sums through accounts in London, possibly in connection with successful frauds on German businessmen, relating to the sale of raw materials.

Police are concerned that London and the South have become the favourite base for criminals from the former Eastern block. Members of police asset-tracing units have found that London is used more than any other European capital. Criminals like the opportunities for investment and money laundering to be found in the City, and its proximity to the émigré communities of the south coast between Bournemouth and Brighton.

One said last night: "What we are seeing is an environment which is ideal for not so much organised crime as networked crime, where interested groups act in partnership. It must be remembered that it is a two-way thing, British firms are going out there to legitimately look for new business."

Apart from eastern European criminals using Britain as a base, police are investigating a number of frauds committed against the nascent republics.

Scotland Yard is at present investigating a scam in which aluminium worth about £5 million was sent to Britain from Russia but payment was never made; the raw materials and the people who ordered them have disappeared.

The emerging republics are particularly vulnerable to "advance fee fraud", where fraudsters make extravagent promises to a businessman or a government to set up massive loans or trade deals but demand a sum up front to set up the scheme. The cash is paid and the fraudster disappears.

The concern is reflected in the number of Russian police officers who visit Britain for training. Four weeks ago Valentin Stepankov, prosecutor general of the Russian Federation, and Boris Kondrashov, vice-chairman of the committee on law and order and crime prevention, visited London to discuss their concerns.

While in the UK they met Sir Nicholas Lyell, the attorney-general, and Barbara Mills, Director of Public Prosecutions. British police are particularly keen to see the Criminal Justice Bill, which at present is stalled in the Commons through lack of parliamentary time, enacted. This bill will give force to an EC directive that makes all money laundering a crime. At present only the laundering of money in connection with terrorism or drugs is an offence.

The bill is exepcted to go through Parliament by midsummer and will give a powerful weapon to the international effort to combat white-collar crime.

The two men who were killed bought the four-bedroom flat in Bickenhall Street, Marylebone, for £1 million last December, paying through a company that they owned. They also used the company to buy a house in Harrow.

According to neighbours, they lived the "high life" throughout their stay.

The murders were discovered after police were alerted by delivery men who noticed a strong smell coming from a box they had been asked to deliver to the house in Harrow. It had been sent by two men staying at the Marylebone flat. Police found the body of Ruslan in the box and later discovered the body of his brother at the penthouse.

They also found a German woman, who worked as an interpreter for the brothers, who had been kept at the penthouse.

Two men were yesterday remanded in custody charged in connection with the deaths.

Dole queue frightens council workers into voting for pay cut

BY IAN MURRAY

STEVE Wolf took time off from sweeping the steps of Sheffield City Hall yesterday to explain why he was one of those who voted on Tuesday for a 3.25 per cent cut in their city council wages.

"It was either take less money home at the end of the week or see 1,400 of us go down the road," he said. "I could easily have lost my job and I didn't want to spend time on the dole queue when I could be working. It was a hard decision, but there was no option."

Chris Jolly, a representative of the National Union of Public Employees, whose members, like those of the National and Local Government Officers' union, voted for the cut, said: "Finding a job in Sheffield is more than difficult. If you have one it is too precious a thing to let go."

The vote was narrow, with 6,464 voting for the cut and 6,178 opposing it. In return for the pay reduction, the 25,000 workers have been guaranteed employment for a year and will get either an extra seven days holiday or work one hour less a week.

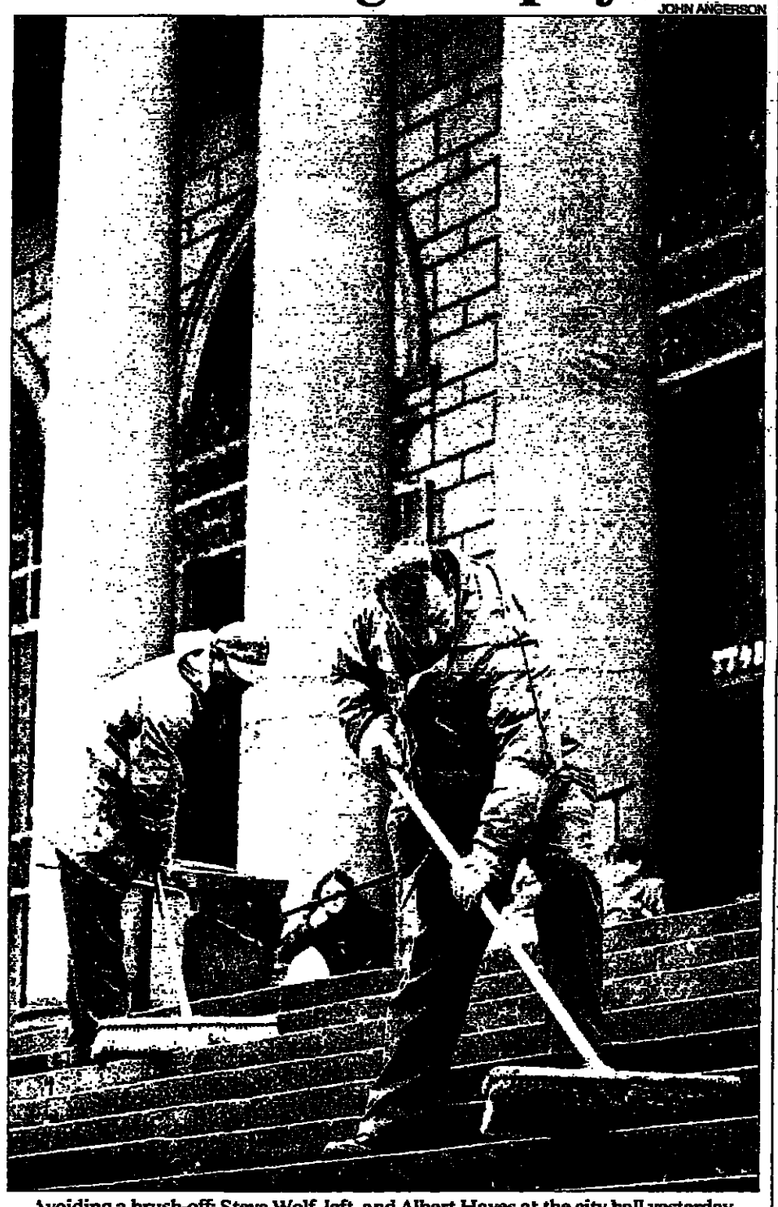
Mike Bower, the council leader, said: "We regard it as a reasonable solution to an impossible situation. We had a common interest in that we wanted to maintain services and the trade unions wanted to maintain employment. If we had not been able to agree this, then we would have had to decimate health services, adult education and a whole range of other things.

"Even so this can only be a temporary arrangement. We have now got to get down to shift fundamentally the way we use our resources and we shall have to do that for as long as central government is hostile to local government."

Sheffield realised late last year that it would need to save £37 million to avoid capping this year. After making nearly £30 million in savings, the council decided that it had to present the staff with the ultimatum or face being capped.

John Redwood, the local government minister, said the decision was good news for Sheffield taxpayers, although the situation had been caused by overspending in the past. Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, said that the government's welcome "shows ministers have been promoting Britain as a low-wage bargain basement workplace, when our aim should be higher quality goods and services, a growing economy and well-paid workers."

JOHN ANGERSON



Avoiding a brush-off: Steve Wolf, left, and Albert Hayes at the city hall yesterday

In marked contrast to Sheffield, Hampshire County Council is preparing to recruit another 600 teachers, expand its library service and employ another 100 home helps, even though it will have the lowest council tax of any county in the country. Freddie Emery-Wallis, chairman of the policy committee, said: "It has been done by resisting the temptation to borrow heavily and so avoiding massive interest charges." Basildon, capped last year, knows only too well the cost of interest charges. Its council changed from Labour to Conservative control last May and since then the staff has been pruned by 200, district offices closed, crèches abolished and the five-year-old theatre, for which the council is still paying, has been closed.

Despite these savings, council-tax payers in band D will have to pay £224 to the authority and £431 to Essex County Council, one of the higher levels in the country. A third of Basildon's money is needed to service debts.

At nearby Harlow, where last year's budget reached £23 million, the council has decided to ignore the government's limit of £10.95 million and set a level of £18 million. A spokesman, Mark Ellis, said: "It is no coincidence that four of the ten places worst hit by the new council-tax levels are new towns. We face a different set of circumstances."

Societies say house prices still falling

House prices fell by 1.4 per cent last month, according to Nationwide, the second largest building society (Lindsay Cook writes). In January, Nationwide reported an increase of 1.2 per cent when the Halifax reported a fall of 0.4 per cent. The Halifax this week adjusted this to a 0.3 per cent fall and reported a similar fall for February.

Both Halifax figures were seasonally adjusted. Without the adjustment the falls were 1.1 per cent and 0.5 per cent respectively. Over 12 months prices were down by 7.2 per cent, the Halifax says, while Nationwide says they are down by 6.4 per cent. The two societies report encouraging signs of activity in the housing market. Falls in standard mortgage rates and fixed-rate mortgage offers are expected to help a reasonable recovery in the spring.

The average house price is put at £51,785 by Nationwide, a fall of £722 on January. The Halifax reports a fall of £275 to £60,196. New houses have not suffered as much, according to the Halifax, and are down 3.7 per cent. This might reflect builders being able to hold out after receiving a large part of the £750 million given to housing associations.

Ministers are rebuked

Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, and the health minister Dr Brian Mawhinney were yesterday criticised by the Speaker of the Commons for the way in which higher prescription charges were announced. Betty Boothroyd said that Dr Mawhinney had used a device that the procedure committee had declared "inherently undesirable". Dr Mawhinney had used a written answer "pursuant" to a previous answer, which gives MPs no hint that an announcement is on its way. The original question had been about free prescriptions. David Blunkett, Labour health spokesman, said ministers would now find it more difficult "to sneak out uncomfortable announcements".

Late bequest legal

A solicitor whose delay in preparing a will meant it was not finalised before his client died is liable to pay compensation to a prospective beneficiary, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday. Sir Donald Nicholls, the vice-chancellor, and Lords Justices Farquharson and Steyn allowed an appeal by Carol White and Pauline Heath, sisters from Sheldon, Birmingham, who claimed the negligence of solicitors Philip Baker King and Co and John Jones, a legal executive, cost them £9,000 each. The sisters fell out with their father, Arthur Barratt, and were cut out of his will. They were reconciled, but the solicitors had not completed instructions to draw up a new will when Mr Barratt died.

Kidnap victim dumped

The mother of a bank manager was recovering yesterday after being released unharmed by kidnappers who aborted a ransom demand for £60,000. Valerie Addington, 74, was snatched by two men from her doorstep at the house in Harpenden, Hertfordshire, which she shares with her son Arthur, manager of the National Westminster branch in nearby Hatfield. The widow was driven around in the boot of a car for two hours before being dumped beside a road five miles from home.

Proctor attackers guilty

A man who broke a government minister's nose and took part in an assault on the former MP Harvey Proctor was yesterday convicted of affray and assault. James Coomber, 20, and his accomplice, David Parker, 21, who admitted assault, carried out the attacks at Mr Proctor's shirt shop in Richmond, southwest London, last July. The men, from southwest London, will be sentenced next month at Isleworth Crown Court. Coomber punched Neil Hamilton, junior trade minister, after Parker pushed Mr Proctor.

Miniature's big bid



A tiny portrait of a dashing bearded young man, right, doubled the record for the Elizabethan artist Nicholas Hilliard at Christie's yesterday following speculation that its subject was William Shakespeare. "A man clasping a hand from a cloud" became the centre of a bidding battle between two people attending the auction and a telephone bidder. It finally sold for £177,500 to an elderly woman in the front row who said she was a private collector.

Cannabis charges

A man was charged today yesterday with growing cannabis after an armed police raid on Tuesday uncovered a major production centre for the drug. About 2,000 plants worth £200,000 were found. John Hales, 47, of Pitsea, near Basildon, Essex, was also accused of producing a controlled drug. He will appear before Enfield magistrates today.

Escaper gets cold feet

A rapist who escaped from Verne prison in Portland, Dorset, yesterday gave himself up after two hours in freezing temperatures. Stuart Partington, 30, who was convicted at Manchester, evaded a police search before returning to the jail. Dorset police said: "It appears he got so cold, he decided to surrender."

Unionists strike pit deal

BY SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government has reached a deal with Ulster Unionist MPs to guarantee their support for a limited rescue of pits in exchange for a commitment to cut Northern Ireland's energy costs.

The agreement could prove crucial if Michael Heseltine's review saves only seven of the original 31 threatened pits, which has become a possibility after his failure to reach a deal with the electricity generators.

The President of the Board of Trade appears to be boxed in by the refusal of the generators, British Coal, the Treasury, the European Commission and some cabinet colleagues to sanction severe restrictions on other energy producers in order to expand the coal market.

Tim Eggar, the energy minister, has had a full discussion with Roy Beggs, Ulster Unionist MP for Antrim East, on the party's demands for an energy package.

Under the agreement the energy white paper, delayed until late March, is expected to promise an interconnector cable between Scottish Power and Northern Ireland. The government hopes that half the £200 million cost would come from EC funds.

Ministers are also considering constructing a gas pipeline and a lignite power station in the province.

David Trimble, Ulster Unionist MP for Upper Bann, said yesterday: "We are very anxious that it will be a review of energy policy and will address the serious problem of Northern Ireland, where electricity costs for industry are running some 25 per cent above those on the mainland."

Tory whips are still anxious that the support from Ulster Unionists might not be enough if Mr Heseltine's package fails to save at least half the threatened pits.

Some MPs on the Conservative Coal Group want nothing less than a reprieve for at least 15 pits and a five-year rescue deal, as recommended by the Commons industry committee.

A senior Cabinet minister commented yesterday: "We cannot afford to get this one wrong twice."

Redundant soldiers lack homes

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE families of service personnel made redundant need more help in affording a home, according to a survey.

The study found that only 30 per cent of married soldiers leaving the army last year were buying a home.

The majority of 75 married soldiers made redundant last October at the Tidworth garrison on Salisbury Plain were renting homes, living in tied accommodation or lodging with friends or relations.

Their redundancy was not enough for a deposit on a house, according to the study published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The Ministry of Defence has introduced a home savings scheme, offered discounts on the sale of married quarters and reduced-cost mortgages. However, the Rowntree report said the ministry should secure more rented accommodation.

John Major's council tax bill to be cut by canny Huntingdon

BY IAN MURRAY

THE prime minister's constituency of Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, will receive more money from government grants and business rates in the year ahead than it will need to spend on local services. As a result, council tax payers, including John Major, will see their bills cut by anything up to £73.14 depending on which band their property falls in.

While other local authorities are agonising over staff and other cuts needed to maintain services, Huntingdon is seeking no redundancies from among its 700 staff.

"We are spending 40 per cent less than allowed by the standard assessment on which grants are based," said Ewan Rayner, the district finance officer. "We are a low spender, but I would argue that we provide good basic services with no frills."

The council has actually increased its budget for the year ahead from £6.2 million to £7.34 million, but this extra expenditure is more than covered by the £3.78 million it will receive from the revenue support grant and the £5.24 million due in business rates. The extra £1.68 million is being shared out among council tax payers, who will have their bill from the county authority reduced by an average of £36.57. The owner of a category D property will pay around £420 instead of £455.

Mr Rayner accepts that he has a far easier task in drawing up his budget than large urban councils such as Sheffield. "We are a vastly different type of area and they have many problems we do not have to face. It would not be fair to compare us with Sheffield."

Huntingdon is one of eight district authorities that have managed to balance their budgets without any contribution from council tax payers. The others include south Cambridge, west Cambridge, west Oxford Wellingborough, Hambleton, Bath and Sedgefield, County Durham.

Sedgefield, the parliamentary constituency of Tony Blair, the shadow home secretary, is the only Labour-run council among them. Next year, staff levels of 1,000 are being maintained. Norman Vaulks, director of finance, puts this success down to "sound control of finances, strict control of the staffing levels, sound investment of capital and collecting nearly all our poll tax — we sent in the bailiffs".

Sedgefield is nevertheless having to fund its zero district tax rate by taking £615,000 out of reserves and plans to do the same for the next two years. This will mean council tax payers in a category D property will only have to pay the £464.84 bill from the county council, with nothing added for the district services.

Ulster soldiers win damages from police

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SIX soldiers in the former Ulster Defence Regiment have been awarded undisclosed damages against Sir Hugh Annesley, chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

The soldiers, serving with the UDR's successor, the Royal Irish Regiment, sued for unlawful detention following their arrest for questioning in connection with an enquiry into alleged collusion with paramilitaries.

They were among 28 members of the UDR brought in for questioning in October 1989 after dawn raids on their homes by more than 300 RUC officers.

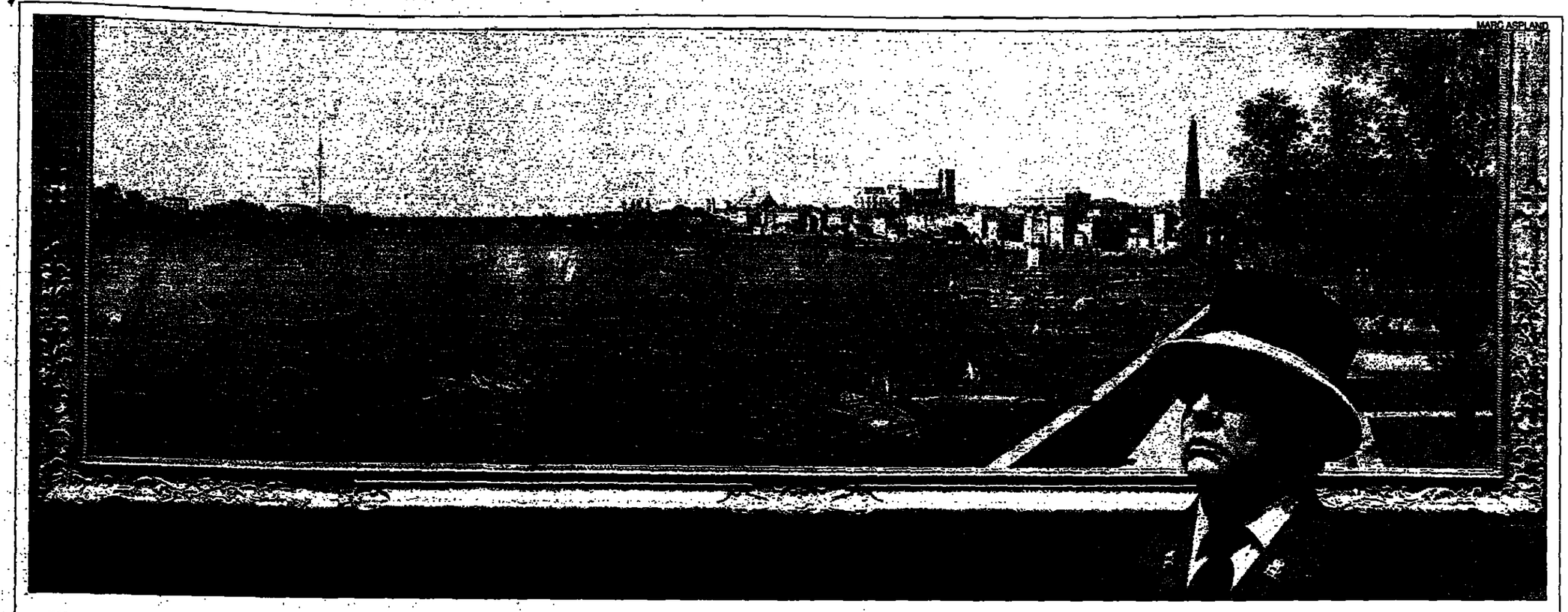
The operation outraged senior army officers and unionist politicians, who said the soldiers could have been requested to come to barracks for questioning. Instead their security had been compromised and some had to move house.

The arrests came at the outset of a seven-month investigation into collusion between members of the security forces and loyalist paramilitaries, led by John Stevens, now chief constable of Northumbria.

Ten of those arrested were released without charge within 24 hours, including the six who sued. Six were fined for minor technical offences involving the possession of surplus ammunition.

The men made no comment about the award, which is thought to be about £5,000 each. Ken Maginnis, an Ulster Unionist MP, said: "The amount of compensation is of minor importance and certainly could not have recompensed them for the stigma and the security trauma they have had to endure."

Mr Stevens refused to comment on the settlement, but said: "The enquiry resulted in the conviction of 44 people for terrorist-related offences, who were given sentences totalling 651 years."



King's collage: an attendant at The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, beside a Canaletto at an exhibition, opening tomorrow, of paintings George III bought from his Venice consul

Wife of disgraced DPP suffocated herself with bag

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

LADY Green, estranged wife of the former Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Allan Green, killed herself by putting a plastic bag over her head, an inquest ruled yesterday.

The Swedish-born Lady Green, 47, was found dead at her home on January 30 by her son Robin, who had planned to meet her for lunch. She moved into the house in Maida Vale, west London, after separating from her husband. Sir Allan resigned from his job after being stopped by police while talking to a prostitute in King's Cross, London, in October 1991. He was not at the inquest.

Lady Green's fully-clothed body was found on her bed with a yellow plastic bag over her head, secured with a knotted length of elastic. An almost empty bottle of sleeping tablets was beside her and she had left a note for her son, the inquest at Westminster was told.

The coroner, Dr Paul Knapman, recorded a verdict that she took her own life. He said: "She appeared on the outside to be having a more positive attitude to life. However it is clear that problems of a personal nature were affecting her a great deal and I think she had placed the plastic bag over her head with the intention of killing herself."

Lady Green met her husband while studying economics in London, when he was a prosecutor at the Old Bailey. They married in 1967 and had a son Robin, 22, and daughter, Susannah, 21. She said she would stand by Sir Allan after the scandal broke, but they separated in January 1992, just before their silver wedding anniversary.

The inquest was told that police and a pathologist initially treated her death as suspicious, but found that no other person had been involved. Dr Hugh White, of Guy's hospital, who carried out the post-mortem examination, said Lady Green had taken four to five times the therapeutic level of Temazepam tablets, used to reduce anxiety and help with sleeping, although the level was not enough to kill her. She had suffocated herself with the plastic bag. Dr White said: "Death is remarkably rapid with this method, with no signs of asphyxia."

Robin Green, a barrister, told the inquest that his mother had difficulty sleeping following the marriage break-up, but recently had displayed "a more positive attitude".

He had dinner with her the night before her body was found, and noticed nothing amiss. "She seemed tired and a little subdued," he said. "Perhaps with the benefit of hindsight she was not quite herself. She was planning to go on holiday the next week and she talked about that."

When he returned the next day he found a letter for him on the stairs. "Inside was a letter explaining what my mother intended to do and where I would find her."



After the verdict: Lady Green's son Robin yesterday

Judge orders naming of teenage rapists

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE identities of two youths who raped a 13-year-old girl should be made public, a judge at the Central Criminal Court ordered yesterday.

Judge Nina Lowry lifted an order she had made earlier banning the identification of Dean Thomas, 15, and Jamel Stewart, 16. She said: "I do not think it right or in the public interest that the identity of two of the perpetrators of this crime should be cloaked in anonymity."

Thomas, Stewart and Chaza Daniels, 19, all from Brixton, south London, were found guilty of raping and falsely imprisoning the girl.

Daniels was sentenced to nine years for three charges of rape and three of false imprisonment. Thomas was jailed for five years and nine months for one charge of rape and three of false imprisonment. Stewart was sentenced to four years and nine months for one charge of rape and one of false imprisonment. They will serve their sentences in young offenders' institutions.

At the Old Bailey last week Judge Bruce Laughland QC allowed the names of two rapists aged 16 and 17 to be published, saying: "If you are old enough to commit rape, you are old enough to pay the penalty."

The court was told that since the girl had reported her ordeal to police she had been unable to live at home because of abuse from sections of the community.

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Knowledge of Bible saved Adventist from cult's grip

David Koresh's claim that he was Christ shocked one man into seeing the truth, Walter Ellis *writes*

NATHANIAL Watson's intimate knowledge of the Bible helped him resist the agents of David Koresh when they came to recruit him into their American master's murderous cult.

Mr Watson, recently elected head deacon of Nottingham's thriving Seventh Day Adventist church, from which several of his friends and two children went to join Mr Koresh in his Texas compound, was intrigued at first.

Adventists, an evangelical sect founded in America in 1844, look forward to the Second Coming. But when Koresh's "prophets" claimed that the leader of the Branch Davidian sect was not just a preacher, but Jesus the Messiah, Mr Watson was not seduced, he was shocked.

"False prophets shall come in my name", was the verse, from Matthew 24, that sustained him. Yet they persisted. Mr Koresh, they said, had convinced his followers he was Christ. Their faith in him was unrelenting. Mr Watson replied, quoting from First Thessalonians: "When Jesus comes, all eyes shall see him." Scripturally, it was game, set and match. Mr Watson, for one, was "saved".

For the rest of the Nottingham congregation of some 190 souls, Mr Koresh's cult has been a nightmare. Seven former members were among the 150 involved in this week's bloody siege in Waco, Texas, in which many were killed or injured. One, at least, appears to have been a trusted lieutenant.

Livingston Fagan, one of those who sought to recruit Mr Watson, was once an active member of his local church. When training for the Adventist ministry at its theological college in Newbold, Berkshire, in 1990 he first came into contact with the Koresh cult. Mr Fagan's conversion was total and two years later he was a prime mover in bringing Mr Koresh to Britain to proclaim his divinity.

Mr Koresh's mission nearly split the church. Young people especially were attracted to a movement that was based on certainty, community and, so it is said, free love.

Mr Fagan was expelled from the church and took a handful of converts, plus his wife and two small children, to Waco. Winston Blake, one of Mr Watson's boyhood friends, went along with his girl friend, Beverley Elliott.

Mr Watson occasionally received telephone calls and letters from Miss Elliott. "She talked about the food and the weather and seemed to be happy. But her mail was censored and there were things she would not talk about over the phone. It was as though someone was listening and telling her what to say."

Nathaniel Watson, depressed and anxious but unshakeable in his own convictions, hopes his friends will return safe and well. "All I can do is pray."

Siege continues, page 1

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Gene discovery may lead to treatment for motor neuron disease

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

■ Discovery of a possible cause of the fatal muscle-wasting disease could mean ante-natal genetic tests in hereditary cases

THE discovery of a gene responsible for some cases of motor neuron disease may provide clues for treating the fatal wasting condition, which kills 1,000 people a year in Britain.

While only about 10 per cent of cases are hereditary, identification of the gene helps explain the mechanism by which motor nerves are killed, and suggests treatments that may also be useful for the 90 per cent of sufferers whose disease appears to arise spontaneously.

Motor neuron disease, also known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) or Lou Gehrig's disease, after a famous baseball player who suffered from it, generally strikes in middle age. It affects nerves in the brain and spinal cord, and leads to the wasting of the muscles controlled by these nerves. Almost complete paralysis follows.

The disease does not affect the brain itself, as witnessed by the life of Professor Stephen Hawking, the Cambridge physicist and author, who has had a brilliant career despite suffering from ALS for about 25 years.

A team of 32 scientists from eight institutions report in this week's *Nature* that they have found genetic defects in 13 families who suffer from the inherited form of the disease. The gene affected is one whose task it is to produce the enzyme superoxide dismutase (SOD). It appears the absence of this enzyme, which normally protects nerves against the effects of oxygen radicals in the body, leads to the symptoms of the disease.

Superoxide, an oxygen-free radical, is produced by many biochemical processes in the body, and is normally mopped up by hydrogen ions to form hydrogen peroxide, in a reaction catalysed by SOD. In the absence of SOD, however, the radicals can accumulate and kill the nerve cells.

In the 13 families studied by the team, led by Dr Robert Brown of the Massachusetts General Hospital in Charlestown, a variety of defects in the SOD gene were discovered, all likely to affect production of the enzyme. Whether the same defects, arising spontaneously, are also the cause of the disease in other patients is not clear, but the finding suggests a possible treatment for the condition in both types of patient.

If the toxic effects of oxygen-free radicals are the cause, say the researchers, then measures to lower toxicity "might blunt the devastating course of this disease". This may involve injection of SOD itself, or of compounds that penetrate the central nervous system and decrease the level of free radicals. Such compounds exist, and are already being tested in patients with Parkinson's disease.

Peter Cardy, director of the Motor Neuron Disease Association, said yesterday: "This is a great step forward and the first direct evidence of one cause of the disease. It is marvellous news, but must be seen in context. The discovery unfortunately does not mean a cure is in sight, but it is an important piece in the jigsaw." The discovery also creates the possibility of ante-natal tests for the gene defect in families known to harbour it.

Once such tests become available, Mr Cardy said, "children of people with MND will have to decide if they want to know if they carry the defective gene".

Professor Nigel Leigh, of the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College Hospital, London, said: "This discovery will give a great boost to research already being undertaken worldwide into the potentially toxic role of free radicals in cells."

The gene studied by the team is not the only one in the human genome that codes for SOD. There are another two genes that produce different versions of the enzyme, and the team is now investigating whether these two are linked to other cases of familial motor neuron disease, or to other degenerative diseases of the nervous system. If they are, the implications for treatment could go even wider than motor neuron disease alone.

CHRIS HARRIS



Guarded welcome: Hanna Suchocka, prime minister of Poland, at the start of her three-day visit to Britain yesterday. She lunched with John Major and today will meet Baroness Thatcher. European timetable, page 12

Hatton will not give evidence at fraud trial

BY A STAFF REPORTER

DEREK Hatton will not be giving evidence at the fraud trial at Mold Crown Court. The defence barristers representing the former Liverpool council leader and his co-accused yesterday offered no evidence on behalf of their clients.

Barristers representing Mr Hatton, John Nelson and Hannah Folan, both former Liverpool councillors, and John Monk, a Liverpool businessman, stood up in turn yesterday morning to declare they offered no evidence in defence.

Alan Rawley QC, for the prosecution, told the court Mr Hatton was the "moving spirit" behind land deals which went in favour of clients of his public relations company, Settleside. It was alleged he used his influence over Mr Nelson and Miss Folan, committee chairmen, to secure the deals.

On Tuesday, Mr Justice Waterhouse threw out one of the three charges, acquitting Mr Hatton, Miss Folan and Roy Stewart, a builder. Mr Hatton, Miss Folan and Mr Monk face further charges relating to the sale of land for use as car parks.

□ John Monk, managing director of Gatwick Motors, a car park company at Gatwick airport, has no connection with the John Monk who is a defendant in this trial.

Most rental cars found to be faulty

BY NICHOLAS WATT

MOST hire cars in Britain are faulty and some are so dangerous they could cause accidents, a survey says today. *Which?* magazine found that Britain's leading car rental firms frequently hired out vehicles with damaged tyres and wheels, wrongly-inflated tyres and broken lights.

The magazine, which is published by the Consumers' Association, anonymously hired 100 cars and vans for the survey. Up to 60 per cent had problems and faults. Three out of five cars and four out of five vans all fell short of basic road safety requirements.

The body that represents the car hire industry said yesterday that it was so concerned by the findings that it was setting up its own investigation. David Farquhar, a spokesman for the British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association, said: "The industry is always keen to raise its standards but there will always be slip-ups."

British Car Rental, which has 60 branches throughout Britain, had the worst record, according to *Which?*. All but one of its six cars hired by the magazine had dents and scratches and they had all done an average of more than 20,000 miles. On top of the usual tyre and wheel faults there were oil leaks, damaged exhaust pipes and a cracked light lens.

All the British Car Rental cars were hired out by Bletchley Motor Group, which operates a franchise. A spokeswoman for BCR said: "We have talked to Bletchley who are reviewing their policy to bring it in line with BCR's policy. Cars should be no more than five months old."

Van rental firms also performed poorly in the survey. Budget Rent-a-Car, which has 133 van hire branches throughout Britain, hired out five out of six vans with serious problems. Tyres on four of the vans were under or over-inflated, which can lead to blow-outs.

Which? also found that the companies had inflexible rules that often led to hidden charges for consumers. Avis, which has 200 branches in Britain, charged the *Which?* researcher for a full extra day after he returned the car 45 minutes late. Pleas that he had been held up by traffic delays were met with the response that the charge was "company policy". Avis has since changed the policy.

The magzine claims that companies also expect hirers to inspect vehicles to an "unreasonable" level on unfair and complicated checklists. When a *Which?* researcher told British Car Rental about serious damage to a tyre, after the magazine's engineers had inspected the car, the company claimed that it had not been there when the car was rented. The hirer was asked to pay on the grounds that he had agreed to the condition of the car when he picked it up.

Mr Farquhar said: "We are in the process of introducing a new code of practice which will mean random inspections by the RAC."

DIY funerals could lower cost of dying

BY ROBIN YOUNG

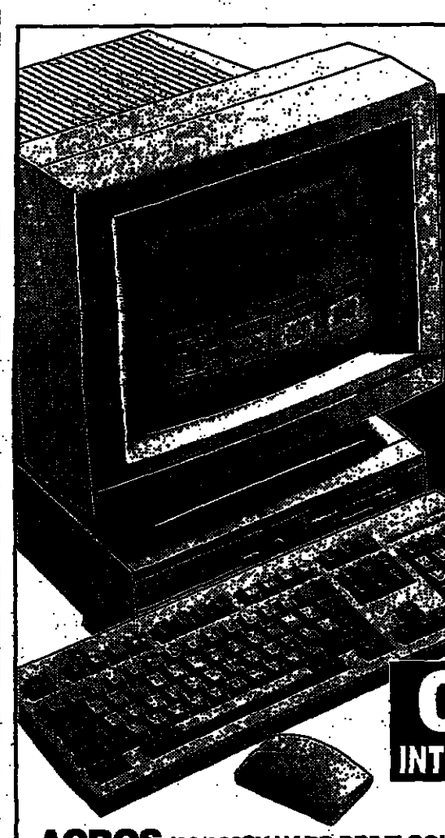
THE average cost of a burial has risen by 15 per cent in a year to £1,035, researchers say. But an advocate of do-it-yourself funerals says his methods can save at least £800.

A survey by the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows shows that the price of an average cremation has risen by 6 per cent to £830. A basic burial costs £754, a basic cremation £718.

An alternative is offered by Nick Albery, a director of the Natural Death Centre, who is to stage an English Day of the Dead in St John's Wood, London, on April 18. Mr Albery, editor of *The Natural Death Handbook*, says that it is much easier than most people imagine to arrange burial on private land. He says that £800 can be saved on the average funeral by organising it yourself "and you have a much more personalised affair as a result".

On the Day of the Dead, the centre will display flat-pack and cardboard coffins and biodegradable body-bags, and will identify undertakers most helpful toward families making their own arrangements.

Mr Albery said: "If you dig your own hole and wrap the body in an old sheet, you could probably do it for threepence, but that would not suit everybody. We do firmly believe, though, that playing an active part in the funeral does help in the grieving process."



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Turmoil at the Mirror: rescue plan leads to jobs traffic between Holborn and Wapping

Bankers stand firm as the MGN exodus continues

BY ANGELA MACKAY

THE crisis that has convulsed staff at Mirror Group Newspapers, one of Britain's biggest media groups, continued yesterday, with further resignations and recriminations at its headquarters in Holborn Circus.

As disaffected journalists campaign against the board, the company's banks and its administrator appear determined to ride out the crisis and support the strategy of the new management, led by the chief executive David Montgomery. Mr Montgomery has sustained the support of the banks by introducing stringent cost cuts since he took control in late October last year. Reliable sources at the *Mirror* say that his mandate is to capitalise on assets, increase profitability and propel the share price to a level that gives the banks an exit price to meet the liabilities incurred when they lent more than £400 million to the late Robert Maxwell.

Shares at MGN, publisher of the *Mirror*, *The People*, *Sunday Mail*, *Daily Record* and *Sunday Mirror*, have risen by a a third to 106p since Mr Montgomery's arrival. This compares with a low of 49p last summer. The banks — National Westminster, Goldman Sachs, Midland and Lloyds — need at least 125p a share to make a respectable exit.

The City's broad support is still tentative. Many potential investors are waiting for the 1992 results to be announced on April 5 before giving Mr Montgomery and his team their wholehearted support. Analysts are predicting pre-tax profits of about £28 million before certain exceptional items including rationalisation costs.

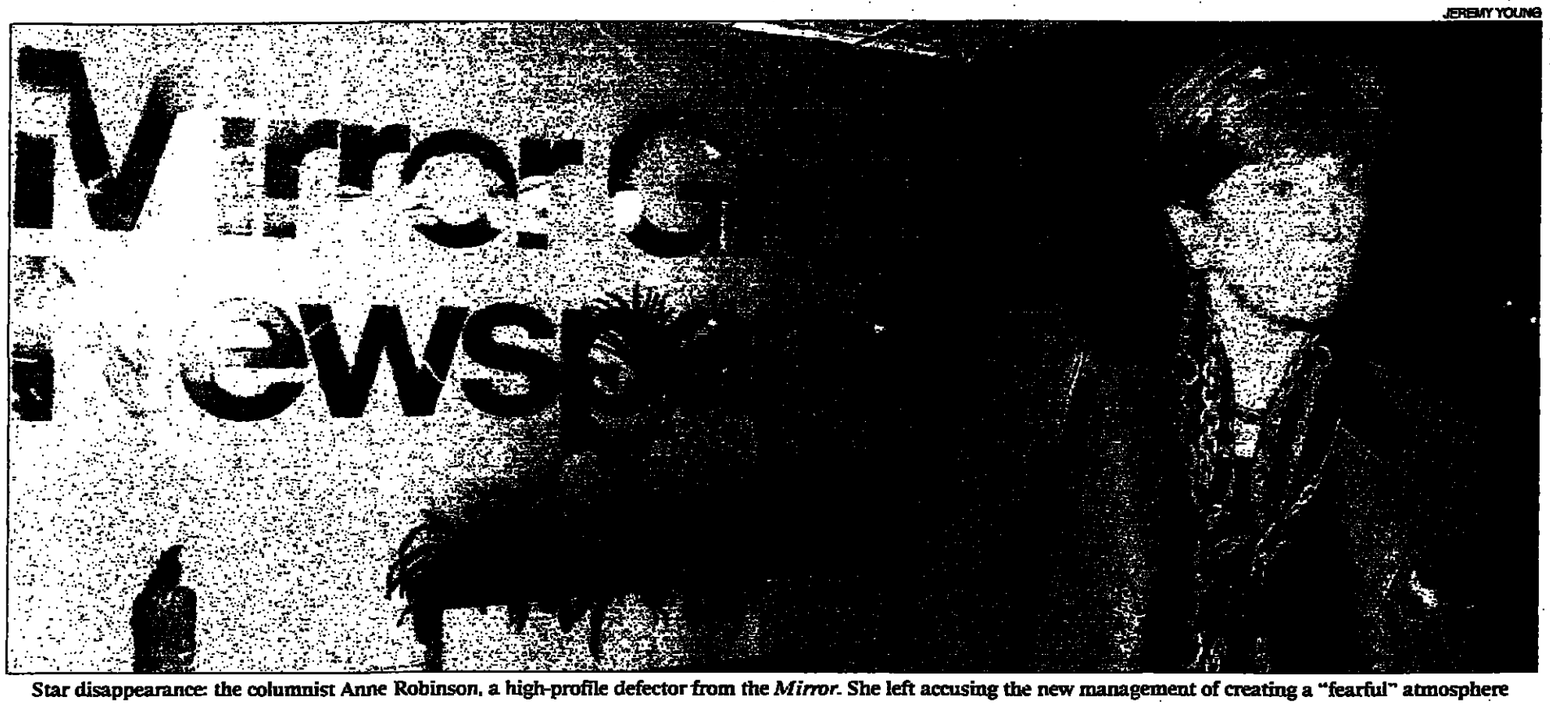
The main problem confronting MGN is that it still has to pay heavily for the profligacy of its former owner while turning itself into an attractive commercial concern. There is a sharp difference in opinion on its progress, depending on whether MGN is viewed as a public company and or a series of newspapers staffed by journalists. There is anger and confusion at the *Mirror*, where 36 staff have left or been sacked since Mr Montgomery assumed control. A hundred "casual" staff were also dismissed. This, combined with a nonchalant attitude toward the unions, has led critics to say that the group has abandoned its traditional support of the Labour party and caused circulation to fall.

Although MGN executives will not discuss specific trading details, industry observers suggest that the group's performance has been mixed over the past three months. The two Scottish newspapers, the *Record* and the *Mail*, as well as the *Sunday Mirror*, appear to have increased sales. The *Mirror*'s circulation has fallen but apparently caught up a little in February, while the *People*'s sales have slumped. Advertising revenue has been more resilient, sources say.

Mr Montgomery's big problem is that, even though he is making tough decisions that many consider to be prudent and correct, he is proving to be divisive and unable to soothe and unite a company devastated by the dishonesty of its former proprietor.

Even the boardroom has not been immune to faction fighting. Last week a split opened between Lord Hollick, a non-executive director and Labour peer, and the rest of the board. The split resulted in John Talbot, the administrator from Arthur Anderson who speaks for 54.8 per cent, announcing that he was pleased with progress and had confidence in the management.

Mr Talbot, and the banks who took shares in MGN from Robert Maxwell as security against loans to private Maxwell companies, recently obtained an assurance from Mr Montgomery that the group's support for Labour had not been altered. It has not been enough to stifle criticism of senior party members such as Neil Kinnock and Roy Hattersley.



JEREMY YOUNG

Star disappearance: the columnist Anne Robinson, a high-profile defector from the *Mirror*. She left accusing the new management of creating a "fearful" atmosphere

Rumours flow like wine at farewell do's

BY JOE JOSEPH

DAILY swaps of journalists between the *Today* newspaper and the *Daily Mirror* across an imaginary Checkpoint Charlie, accompanied by stray sniper fire from loose-tongued tabloid irregulars, have once more made events inside the Mirror Group titles as newsworthy as some of the stories on their front pages.

Anne Robinson was the latest to defect to work for her old Mirror boss Richard Stott, now editing *Today*. The *Mirror* "had lost its way", she sighed, echoing the motive that saw the *Mirror's* political editor Alastair Campbell, features writer Barry Wigmore and others seeking the sanctuary of *Today*.

She joins former *Mirror* columnists like Joe Haines, Keith Waterhouse and John Pilger in becoming of interest more to the newspaper's historians, leaving ageing agony aunt Marje Proops to shoulder the burden of luring new readers.

With so many generals fallen, David Montgomery, the *Mirror's* new chief executive, is loth to lose more. But for how long will he swallow abuse from the campaigning journalist Paul Foot, one of the few star writers still on his payroll? Morale in the newsroom has grown so precarious that when rumours swept through last night that its editor David Banks had been replaced by the paper's liked former editor Roy Greenslade, cheers rang out. The volume of the roars was swelled a little by the alcohol that now flows regularly in the local pubs as one leaving party follows another. The rumour was groundless.

Mirror man James Whittaker is reported to have received pay rises after his bosses feared their royal correspondent was being wooed by *Today*. But it was Anne Robinson who was being poached. And Mr Whittaker, roaming Kathmandu with the Princess of Wales, poohpoohs talk of fresh pay rises or even fresher rumours that the *Daily Mirror* has handcuffed him with an offer of a premium-rate "royal gossip hotline".

"Morale in my area of the *Mirror* is very good," Mr Whittaker chirruped down a crackly phone line from Nepal. "I'm very happy working for the *Daily Mirror*. I think it's a great paper." But he added discreetly: "I also think Richard Stott is a great editor. I'll work for anybody if they pay me enough. I have an agent and he will decide what I do. I've got to go now and see the Princess of Wales at a dinner. That's what I'm paid these huge sums of money to do."

Paul Foot is determined not to leave, but feels handcuffed neither by cash or the charisma of the *Mirror's* new regime. "I'm waiting for Montgomery to get out," he snaps in one of his gentler tirades. "I work here. I've worked here for 13½ years. I'll carry on working here. What I'm not going to do is sink into silence about what's going on here."

Richard Stott, along with James Whittaker, is still smiling. And sifting through a rumoured 72 job applications, many from disenchanted *Mirror* staff. "If the *Mirror's* got some disenchanted readers, we'd be happy to take them."

Maxwell's son avoids bankruptcy

IAN Maxwell staved off the threat of bankruptcy yesterday by giving £500,000 to Mirror Group pension funds plundered by his father, the late Robert Maxwell.

As a result of the eleventh-hour payment, the High Court dismissed a bankruptcy petition filed by the liquidator of the pension fund administration company, Bishopsgate Investment Management (BIM), based on a £500,000 interim court judgment obtained against Mr Maxwell in December.

The petition had been listed for hearing by Mr Registrar Scott shortly after 11am. At about 11.05, Mr Maxwell's solicitors handed a bankers' draft, drawn on Midland Bank, to Margaret Cole, solicitor for the liquidator, Robson Rhodes.

Mr Maxwell, who was in court, said through his lawyers: "The order for interim payment has been complied with and the petition has been dismissed."

At the High Court hearing in December, Mr Maxwell, 36, was held to have breached his duty as a director of BIM by signing forms for the transfer of five blocks of shares, worth about £580,000, to Credit Suisse without obtaining an assurance that the transfers had been approved by the BIM board. His appeal was dismissed earlier this year.

Miss Cole said the liquidator would now pursue its claim for the balance of the £580,000, plus interest and legal costs, totalling more than £600,000. In addition it would be considering its position on an outstanding claim for more than £400 million, brought against Mr Maxwell in its efforts to recover the missing pension money.

The liquidator had already obtained judgment for £406.5 million against his brother Kevin, 33, who as a result became Britain's biggest bankrupt last September.



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Rover's car workers switch to sales and find 3,000 customers

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

ROVER has turned industrial convention upside down by getting production workers to sell cars and sales staff to work on assembly lines.

The assembly workers were so successful that they took orders for 500 cars a week. Now Rover will train all assembly workers in selling to maintain a momentum which helped the company to lead the UK market for new cars in December for the first time in more than 16 years.

Rover has been one of the most adventurous companies in Britain in its industrial relations. Under its "New Deal" agreed with unions last year, workers were guaranteed a job for life. In return, they have to be prepared to work anywhere in the company.

Executives picked 120 workers from the production line to canvass Rover customers by telephone. The original idea was to help them to understand customer demands for quality and reliability. The workers made 120,000 calls in six weeks and sold 3,000 cars. Rover plans to maintain a team of production workers in the sales office, rotating them from their normal jobs ten at a time. Graham Morris, managing director of European operations, said: "It proves how much hidden talent there is in the workforce."

During the telephone canvassing, the workers updated Rover's mailing lists. The savings from wasted letter canvassing have repaid the cost of losing the workers from their normal jobs.

Meanwhile, groups of sales staff, managers and office workers are being sent to work on the assembly line at Cowley, Oxford, which is making the Rover 600 car to be launched this spring. The mid-range model is vital to Rover as it competes with Vauxhall's best-selling Cavalier and the Ford Mondeo, which will arrive in showrooms this month. Executives want white-collar workers to understand how the car is built.

Mr Morris said: "When they see the nuts and bolts in the car, they know what we mean about quality in our cars. They also know that in this company we say there is a job for everyone for life if they want it. But that means we all have to be prepared to roll up our sleeves and do any job that is needed."

Japanese car companies train managers with stints on the assembly line. Toyota sent managers up to director level from the new £700 million plant at Burnaston, Derbyshire, to Japan to work alongside car workers. The Rover experiment is the most extensive in the UK motor industry.

The company hopes that its 600 model will be one of Britain's best-selling, with 30,000 made this year and double that figure next. The 600 will also join Rover exports, which totalled 220,000 cars last year worth more than £1 billion.



Crowd control: police keep watch on a crowd that gathered outside South Sefton Magistrates' Court in Liverpool yesterday for the second appearance of the two boys, aged ten, accused of abducting and murdering two-year-old James Bulger. The boys, also accused of attempting to abduct another child, were removed from the court after police created a diversion. A crowd of about 60 people waited outside for two hours and shouted abuse when police said that the boys had left. The two were remanded in care of the local authority until March 12. The hearing lasted eight minutes. The pair spoke only to give their names and ages. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Suppliers want water rules eased

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

WATER companies were criticised by environmentalists yesterday for saying that some European Community standards on drinking water should be relaxed.

The Water Services Association, representing the ten privatised water companies in England and Wales, said there were about 30 pesticides for which the World Health Organisation recommended safety guidelines much less strict than the limit required by the EC of 0.1 micrograms per litre. Spending should be concentrated on issues with direct relevance to health, such as the effect of lead in water on children's mental abilities.

Dr Tony Shuttleworth, director of quality for Yorkshire Water, said the EC blanket limit applied to all pesticides irrespective of toxicology, was based on science that was 20 years out of date, and should be applied more flexibly.

Friends of the Earth said: "We do not have enough scientific evidence about the effects of long-term exposure to even small amounts of pesticides and we should err on the side of caution."

Rolls-Royce to open showroom in China

By Our Motoring Correspondent

ROLLS-ROYCE, maker of the ultimate symbol of capitalism, is to open a showroom in communist China. The company is negotiating with two state groups that want to run a Rolls-Royce dealership capable of repairing and maintaining the cars as well as acting as a shop window for models costing more than £100,000.

The move into the East is part of the rebuilding of Rolls after a collapse in sales forced by the recession in the United States and the UK. Sales fell from a peak of more than 3,000 annually, to 1,373 last year.

The company has sold 15 cars in China since August, a trickle that Rolls hopes will become a flood to the world's biggest nation. Customers are a new breed of entrepreneur, many of whom have moved back to eastern Europe and China after years in exile.

The first Chinese showroom could be open within weeks and is likely to be based in Guangdong province near the Hong Kong border, where fledgling capitalism is being encouraged by the Chinese authorities.

Five industrial groups are bidding for the franchise to open a showroom in Russia. Rolls has sold 20 cars in Russia this year and will be looking for more buyers at the Moscow motor show, where the glittering two-tonne cars, packed with walnut and leather, will stand alongside Ladas and Skodas.

Peter Ward, the company's chairman and chief executive, said: "There have been Rolls-Royces going into Russia and China unofficially for some time and usually without our knowledge. But there is a fast expanding market in both countries with new entrepreneurs who are pushing the economies along and want to indulge themselves."

However, radical cost-cutting and redundancies at the Crewe factory in Cheshire mean that Rolls has stemmed the financial losses that fuelled speculation that Vickers, its parent business, would have to sell off the company to a foreign manufacturer.

Killing a burglar 'not too serious'

By Nick Nuttall

THE public views killing a burglar caught in the act as far less serious than drink-driving, using stolen credit cards or spying for a foreign power. This is one of the findings of researchers at Manchester's Metropolitan University, who asked people from a variety of backgrounds to rank 47 crimes.

The survey, detailed at the British Psychological Society's criminological and legal conference in Harrogate, shows that making sexual advances to young children, rape after breaking into a house, and killing somebody when driving under the influence of drink were considered the worst offences. The least serious crimes were considered to be breaking a shop plate glass window, fiddling an income tax return and disturbing the peace.

Dr Peter Banister, who carried out the study with Sara Fordham, said that he had been surprised at how low people ranked killing a burglar — thirty-first, next to stealing a radio. A similar survey in America in 1974 also ranked killing a burglar as a less serious crime. "I would have thought it would be more serious here," Dr Banister said. "Killing is killing, no matter what the circumstances, but it is perceived as being less serious than shoplifting."

The research was in response to the government's 1990 white paper, *Crime, Justice and Protecting the Public*. The paper signals a shift towards "justice models" like those in America, which take away the discretionary powers of courts in favour of league tables of sentences.

Dr Banister said his survey indicated that such a system might be unworkable. Perceived seriousness of crimes was subject to wide swings over a matter of months. Different groups within society perceived the seriousness of crimes differently.

The way it isn't

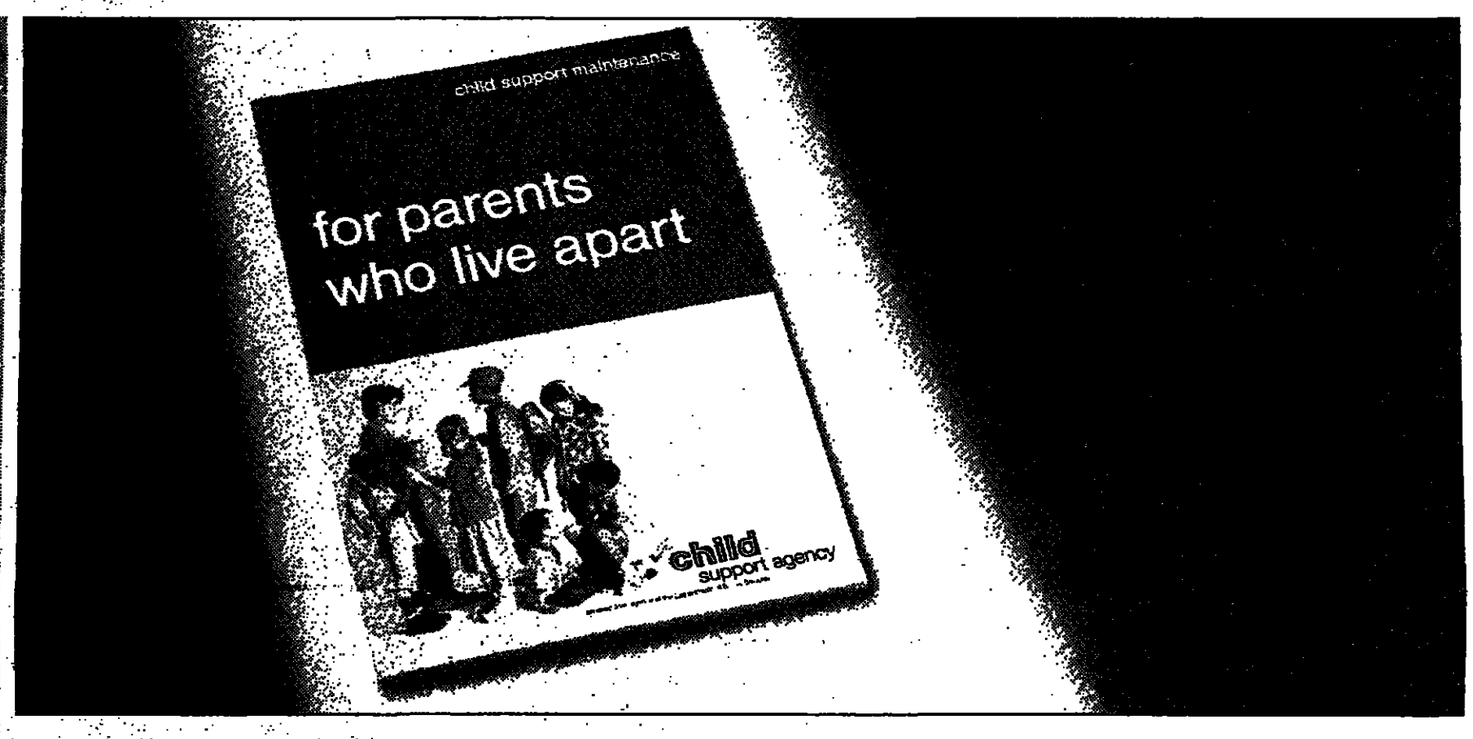


AS TELEVISION producers have been discovering, the classic novel yields precious few breasts. With *Clarissa*, they discovered a few, but that was eighteen months ago. Dickens is virtually breast-free. Hardy has one or two, but they tend to be early on, presaging later doom.

Paradoxically, bare breasts in a modern TV serial give rise to the cry of "Gratuitous!", but if they come into a classic serial, the scenes are said to be handled with "great sensitivity". The BBC is currently showing *Mr Wroe's Virgins*, which has the advantage of a modern writer: hence the breasts.

As television drama producers tend to be unbookish, today and tomorrow I will be helping them in their trawl for naughty passages in great works of literature. In Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, for instance, the conversation comes round to higher ranks of the navy: "Certainly, my home at my uncle's brought me acquainted with a circle of admirals, of *Rears* and *Vices* I saw enough. Now, do not be suspecting me of a pun, I entreat."

A production of *Mansfield Park* should thus be with us before long, or what about a sexy production of Joseph Conrad's *Victory*? It has at least one dirty passage: "The knife was lying in her lap. She let it slip into the fold of her dress, and laid her forearms with clasped fingers over her knees, which she pressed desperately together. The dreaded thing was out of sight at last. She felt a dampness break out all over her." Strung out to the full hour, this sequence could be most televisual. *(To be continued).*



For parents who live apart, a guide to the changes in child maintenance.

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Truancy study adds weight to theory of crime cycle

■ Schools are being asked to experiment with ways to counter truancy, which is seen as the first step on the path to crime

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

AN UNPUBLISHED report based on the largest survey of truancy is expected to disclose the scale of the problem. When the report is delivered to ministers soon, it will increase the pressure to tackle an issue linked with youth crime.

The investigation by researchers at the University of North London is expected to confirm that one in three pupils has absconded from school. One in five schoolchildren has done so to avoid particular lessons.

The report, which cost £184,000 and is based on the truancy record of 40,000 pupils aged 14 to 16, was commissioned by the education department.

John Patten, the education secretary, became convinced of the significance of truancy when he was a Home Office minister dealing with rising crime rates. He was struck by Cambridge University research showing that 48 per cent of juvenile offenders had been truants at schools.

The recent education white paper revealed truancy as almost a personal crusade by Mr Patten, who declared that the "cycle of criminality" was too often triggered by the first episode of truancy.

"It starts with hanging around street corners, drifting into shoplifting and stealing bicycles, 'progresses' to petty burglary, perhaps becoming involved with drugs ... before long the journey from street corner to prison cell is complete," the white paper says.

School examination league tables will include truancy rates from September to focus parents' attention on how successful teachers are at ensuring pupils attend. At least 74 local education authorities have received a share of government cash and been given a free hand to pioneer schemes in the past three years. Funding has increased from £2.5 million in 1991 to almost £6 million from April.

Children as young as four will be targeted in a scheme in Dudley, West Midlands, which received £185,000 in government funding on Monday. It aims to prevent truancy taking root and becoming a habit by the time they reach secondary school. "Children truant because they become demotivated. We want to encourage positive attitudes to school as young as possible. To start at 14 is too late," said Ian Cleland, the authority's chief inspector.

Under the project, pupils at three primary schools will be rewarded for displaying skills in non-academic areas. Teachers will also forge closer links with parents.

Blakeston School at Stockton, Cleveland, has used grants of £60,000 during the past three years to introduce vocational courses in an attempt to make schooling more relevant to children in an area of high unemployment.

But the initiative has highlighted the question of truancy condoned by parents. Reductions in pupils' unauthorised absence were not matched by rising attendance as some parents simply responded by writing more sick notes.

Bill Tevendale, the headteacher, believes parents must also be targeted in campaign against truancy.



Hands-on experience: trainee secondary school teachers will spend 75 per cent of their time in the classroom

Training battle tests Patten's resolve

COMMENTARY

The teacher training experiment to be announced today by John Patten, the education secretary, marks a new stage in the government's attempt to change the culture of teaching.

University education departments and former teacher training colleges are seen by ministers and their advisers as the source of many of the classroom practices they wish to eradicate. John Major has taken a personal interest in the reforms, and launched a fresh attack in the Commons this week on "fashionable theories of the 1960s".

Although the government has control of the teacher training curriculum, through an accreditation council, the colleges have continued to be a favourite target of Conservative educationists. Training reforms featured strongly in the cabinet's January review of its domestic agenda.

The shift from college courses to school-based teacher training was set in motion last year by Mr Patten's predecessor, Kenneth Clarke. He proposed that 80 per cent of a graduate's training for secondary school teaching should take place at school. Mr Patten later modified the requirements to allow up to a third of training to take place on campus.

Only a wider review of the primary curriculum has prevented him from implementing parallel reforms for the younger age group. Detailed proposals to be announced next month are likely to mirror the changes in secondary schools, although smaller schools, tighter staffing levels and a wider curriculum may make primary teachers more reluctant to take responsibility for trainees.

Today's announcement will mark a first step towards training in primary schools, as well as extending the variety of routes into secondary teaching. Groups of schools will be able to offer their own training, buying in the theoretical instruction they require from universities or colleges.

Mr Patten's scheme is a development of two programmes begun four years ago for graduates with work experience and students with subdegree qualifications to train in schools. Fewer than 2,000 students have joined licensed teachers' schemes since 1989, while the two-year articled teachers' programme is now restricted to primary training.

Although limited in scope initially, the new programmes should be more successful than the previous experiments because graduates will be able to join straight from university. They are being launched at a time when the recession has helped to make teaching a more popular career option. Universities and colleges took almost a third more students last year than the government had expected.

Mr Patten's April announcement on primary training will be the key test of the government's resolve to change the pattern of provision. With the number of primary trainees likely to drop from the present 14,000 to fewer than 11,000, the consequences for specialist colleges and university departments could be severe.

Ofsted, the government's new school inspection agency, reported last week that primary training standards were "generally satisfactory". The clean bill of health may have come too late for the colleges.

JOHN O'LEARY

Training schools, page 1

Ulster system inspires young offender units

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke's plan for a network of secure units for persistent juvenile offenders is closely modelled on a system operating in Northern Ireland in which courts can send youngsters to training schools.

As the home secretary defended his proposals against a barrage of criticism from penal affairs groups and children's charities, it was disclosed that Michael Jack, a junior home office minister, and officials have visited the province during the past two months to look at the schools.

Officials are to hold discussions with private security firms and voluntary agencies about their ideas for running the units. Group 4 and UK Detentions, which have won contracts to run private prisons, are among the companies willing to become involved. Barnardo's said in a statement that it was unwilling to run the units but would help the young offenders when they emerged from the new centres.

In Northern Ireland, four schools provide young people aged 10-19 who are offenders or in need of care with education and training. There are both open and secure facilities. Mr Clarke told MPs he wants to offer five similar "approved-school type" units.

Brian Gormley of the Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders said yesterday that training schools remained useful in dealing with young offenders. "The sentence and schools may not be identical with what Mr Clarke is suggesting, but there are many, many similarities," he said.

Young people in the province are sent to the schools under a training school order that is similar to the new secure training order proposed by the home secretary as part of the government's crackdown on teenage crime in England and Wales. The training school order is effective for two years but teenagers can be released back into the community under supervision after six months.

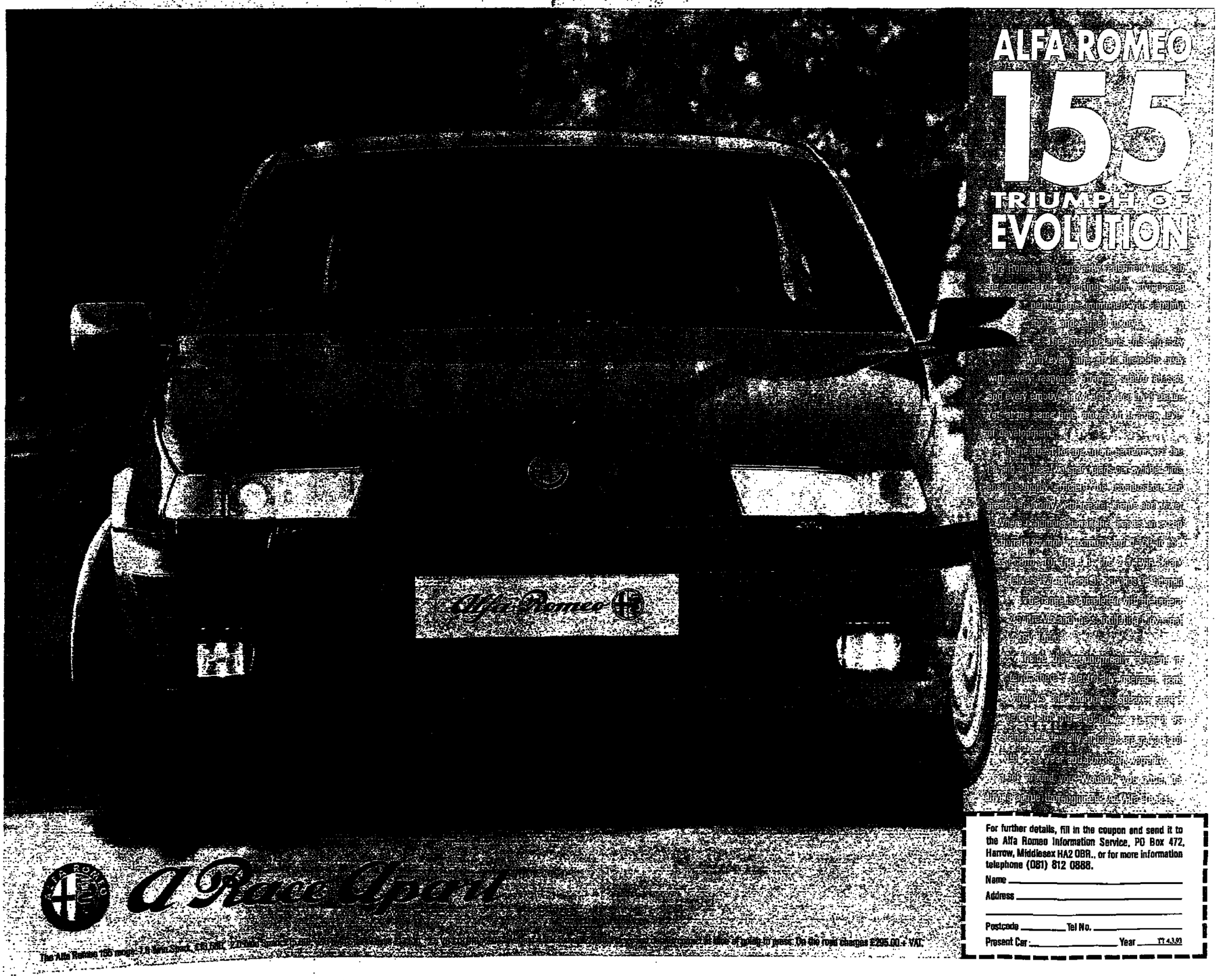
Mr Clarke's plan for a sentence of up to two years for 12 to 15-year-old persistent young offenders is almost the same as the system running in the province. Children who have committed offences which in the case of an adult would be punishable by imprisonment can be sent to three open schools in Belfast and Middletown, co. Armagh, while those convicted of more serious offences go to Lisnevin school at Millisle, co. Down.

Lisnevin can hold 40 boys, the number Mr Clarke proposes for each of his five units. Boys are taught maths, English, social studies, social skills, woodwork, metalwork, building work and science. According to the Northern Ireland Office, it costs £1,000 a week per person at Lisnevin compared with £2,700 in a youth treatment centre in England and Wales.

Yesterday Mr Clarke dismissed criticism that his units could become colleges of crime as the highly predictable remarks of "liberal propagandists". He said: "I think that people just have it fixed into their head that in no circumstances should you send children into custody. Making wild comparisons with borstals and detention centres ignores the gap in the law."

The Children's Society, which denounced the proposals as a "knee-jerk reaction", is to join four other charities in discussing the plan with Mr Clarke.

Letters, page 19



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Maastricht defeat would send British influence 'down the plughole' says Hurd

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND PHILIP WEBSTER

BRITAIN'S influence in Europe would "go down the plughole" if the Maastricht treaty was scuppered. Douglas Hurd said last night as the government intensified its efforts to wear down the rebels.

As Tory MPs prepared for another potential showdown tonight between its warring Maastricht factions, the foreign secretary also said that European companies would lose their competitive edge if the social chapter on workers' rights was included in the treaty. He is expected to press home his warning about the dangers of Britain being left on the sidelines in Europe when he addresses Tory party activists in Harrogate tomorrow. He is to tell the Conservative central council that Britain must not allow itself to be marginalised if it is to influence the shape of Europe after 1996.

The foreign secretary's intervention came as MPs prepared for the fourteenth day of the committee stage of the Maastricht bill in the Commons today. Attention will again focus on Michael Morris, the deputy Speaker, who is under growing pressure to rule on Labour's social chapter amendment 443, which ministers fear would wreck the treaty. The government expects him to declare it out of order.

Labour redoubled its efforts to make the social chapter part of the bill by tabling another amendment. George Robertson, the Opposition spokesman on Europe, said: "If it is in order and selected, Parliament could give a direct instruction to the government on the social chapter that it would not able to dodge legally or politically."

The manoeuvring extended to an apparently innocuous amendment which, if carried, would expose the government to more dangers after the bill's committee stage. Government whips were calculating the best time for calling a vote on a Labour attempt to ensure local election of the treaty's proposed committee of the regions, which will parcel up EC aid.

Pro-Maastricht Tories were bracing themselves for a counter-offensive by the rebels at tonight's meeting of the 1922 committee of backbench MPs after last week's ambush led by the old guard of the party. The 1922 meeting, open to all Tory MPs, will come immediately after the 18-strong executive, which is expected to discuss demands for the resignation of five members who have failed to support the government in procedural votes. If the loyalists press their case, the scene is set for some bitter exchanges as the five, who include Sir George Gardiner and Sir Rhodes Boyson, argue that their prime loyalty is to the backbenchers who elected them.

One senior loyalist confessed that the whips and his pro-Maastricht colleagues seemed powerless to force the rebels to back down. "The days of handing your colleagues a loaded revolver and asking them to get on with it do not seem to work. They point it at you instead."

In a radio interview, Mr Hurd sought to isolate the rebels by saying: "We believe the social chapter would inflict costs, burdens upon industry in this country which are unreasonable and which we don't intend to bear. It is bad for Europe because one of the things that is happening is that we are losing our competitive power in Europe vis-a-vis Japan and what are called sometimes the 'Asian tigers', the new countries of South-East Asia and the Far East.

"We should not enable them to eat us up but if we constantly put burdens on ourselves which they wouldn't dream of bearing on themselves, then our industries will steadily lose ground."

The treaty was the agreed basis for the future of the EC. "If we scupper it, then British influence over decisions which actually affect us greatly — whether on money matters, or on security, on foreign policy — our influence will go down the plug-hole," he said on Classic FM. He ruled out a referendum on Maastricht, saying it was "something of a cop-out" in a parliamentary democracy.

Eastern links, page 12

Lilley seeks to save millions in sickness benefit clampdown

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

RADICAL plans to save hundreds of millions of pounds on state benefits for the long-term sick who are unemployed are being drawn up by social security ministers for this year's spending round.

The proposals, which will top the social security submission to Michael Portillo, chief secretary to the Treasury, were ommitted from last year's Autumn Statement after a decision to protect all benefits.

Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, is considering a number of options to curb the cost of invalidity benefit, which has trebled from £2 billion to £6 billion in the past five years. These include taxing the £54.15 weekly payment and removing age-related allowances, which can add a £11.55 a week.

Plans are being drawn up to close the loophole which allows people who have qualified for the benefit shortly before they retire to receive it for five years. Ministers are looking at ways to tighten up medical checks, to ensure that all those receiving the benefit are entitled to it.

Proposals to tax invalidity benefit, which would raise about £400 million a year, were discussed last year and could feature in the Budget this month or in November. They would require legislation, and are not expected to take effect until April 1994.

The clampdown on sickness benefits will be part of an even tougher spending round than last year. All departments have been told to draw up options of cutting their budgets by up to 5 per cent, a total of £12.6 billion. Talks have already been held with four of the largest spending departments — health, social security, education and the Home Office — which are the first to be subjected to Mr Portillo's longer term review.

Although manifesto pledges on universal benefits are expected to be honoured for this parliament, Mr Lilley has not ruled out changes in future. He is interested in schemes for opting out of state pensions and encouraging further private provision for other schemes. Resistance from the Treasury and a full legislative programme is expected to delay these changes for at least two years. Mr Lilley says he is intent on reshaping the benefits system to ensure that the taxpayer and claimants get a better deal.

The department's review, conducted jointly with the Treasury, will be much wider than Norman Fowler's social security reforms in 1988 which concentrated on income-related benefits. Senior officials, social security ministers and their advisers are to meet for a brainstorming weekend session next month to discuss this year's public spending round and parameters for the long-term review.

Health, education and Home Office ministers are now drawing up a framework for their own reviews. Health ministers argue that their department has some protection for the next few years due to a manifesto commitment for real growth in health spending. However, officials are looking hard at ways of curbing the drugs budget, possibly by extending cash limits, now limited to GP fund-holders, to all GPs.

The health department is also reviewing the whole area of health charges. Ministers point out that four out of five prescriptions are paid for by the government, and if fewer people were exempt hundreds of millions could be saved. Charges for GP services may also be put back on the agenda, and ministers point to huge variations between the amounts charged by local authorities for community services, such as home helps.

Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary is also looking at joint ventures with the private sector, and ensuring that they provide a higher proportion of health care. This is expected to include deals where private developers design, build and possibly manage hospitals, which are leased back to the NHS.

Shephard urges new aid for mothers

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

THE voluntary sector must "forge an alliance" with government to increase childcare facilities for single mothers who want to return to the workforce, says Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary.

In a speech to the National Council for One Parent Families, Mrs Shephard said lone parents often "face barriers which make it hard for them to reach their full potential". There were more than a million single parents in Britain, of whom "most are women and many want to work", Mrs Shephard said.

One of the biggest hurdles was expensive childcare, she said. "By forging alliances in their local communities, training and enterprise councils will be able to increase out-of-school childcare".

She praised the Return to Work programme run by One Parent Families as "a pioneering example of partnership between government and the voluntary sector". The Department of Social Security has given £1 million to the scheme, which provides courses for single parents.

☐ More than 900,000 white collar workers were without work in January, Labour says. The number of white collar unemployed has doubled since 1990, claimed Frank Dobson, the shadow employment spokesman. Labour has also identified 6,000 firms that are at risk if Leyland Daf closes.



Working for women: Gillian Shephard calls for better childcare facilities

Grassroots Tories protest at reforms

BY NICHOLAS WOOD POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tory high command faces a wave of grassroots protest over its plans to overhaul the party machine.

Sir Norman Fowler, the party chairman, and Sir Basil Feldman, chairman of the National Union Executive Committee, will be attacked tomorrow by senior party activists over proposals for greater Central Office scrutiny of the accounts of local associations. They will be accused of mounting a takeover bid for every aspect of party activity, strengthening the centre at the expense of the periphery.

In a session to be held behind closed doors at the party's central council meeting in Harrogate, they will also face a censure motion over the lack of democracy in the selection of the proposed new 12-strong management board that will run the party.

The activists' anger has been fuelled by the disclosure that party headquarters is nearly £20 million in the red and is having to cut 62 jobs in an attempt to balance the books by the next election. Critics will argue that if local associations have to give more detail about their finances, party headquarters should give the rank and file much more information about how it spends its money.

The censure motion, tabled by the Brentford and Isleworth association, condemns party bosses for rejecting demands for an emergency meeting to debate demands for greater democracy in the party. It calls for at least half the management board to be elected by the central council. Central Office points out that most of the board members will be elected representatives of other sections of the party.

The call for an emergency meeting was apparently supported by the requisite 50 constituency associations. However, according to a party spokeswoman not all the names were genuine.

If Sir Norman and Sir Basil fail to push through rule changes required under the shake-up, or lose the censure vote, the result will be deep embarrassment for the party hierarchy. Precedent suggests that they will succeed in beating off their critics.

Eric Chalker, a member of the National Union Executive Committee, said: "I am disturbed at several aspects of the arrangements for this central council, not least the wholly undemocratic nature of major rules proposals and late despatch of the main agenda."

David Wilson, treasurer of East Hampshire Conservatives, said: "We are not quarrelling with policy, we are quarrelling with the organisation of Central Office."

Mike Baker, a member of the Charter Movement, a Tory pressure group, said in a BBC radio interview: "What is at the heart of this problem is the fact that the associations are going to be asked to pay more to Central Office."

AROUND THE LOBBY

MPs back marathon session

MPs have voted to sit through the night next week to accelerate progress of Ray Powell's Sunday trading bill.

The bill closely resembles one of the three options the government is offering MPs in its own proposals to reform Sunday trading laws. The government is under pressure to give its blessing to Mr Powell's bill, which has received cross-party support. The motion passed by the standing committee examining the bill will allow it to sit from 4.30 next Wednesday afternoon through to 12.55pm the next day.

Knives out in the chamber

David Marshall, Labour MP for Glasgow, Shettleston, brandished a sheath knife in the Commons to demonstrate the dangers on the city's streets. Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, ordered him to remove it immediately. Mr Marshall was pressing for legislation to ban the import and sale of such weapons. Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Scottish Office minister, said the government was to back a bill introduced by Phil Gallie (Ayr, C) that will allow prosecutions for carrying a knives without the need to prove intent to injure.

Pits failure

An attempt to save some of the threatened coal pits failed in the Commons. Elizabeth Peacock called for the lifting of restrictions which limit the number of miners working underground at a privately owned pit. Her bill was defeated by 180 votes to 55, a majority of 125.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Treasury; prime minister. European Communities (amendment) bill, committee, 14th day. Lords (3): Asylum and immigration appeals bill, report, final day.

Lang to unveil new Scottish powers

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT proposals to reform Scottish parliamentary business and hand over much of the country's administration to Scottish mandarins will be unveiled to a full meeting of the cabinet tomorrow by Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary. The reforms are expected to be announced to the Commons next week.

The proposals, the result of the government's stock-taking exercise announced at the general election, are expected to include more powers for the Scottish Grand Committee. It is likely to assume responsibility for Scottish question time, Scottish statements and adjournment debates. Scotland could also be given its own voice in Europe through a committee of the regions, and Whitehall departments could be hived off with a possible increase in civil service jobs in Scotland.

The proposals, which are likely to devolve more power to the Scottish Office, are expected to be unopposed at tomorrow's cabinet meeting but are likely to meet strong condemnation from opposition parties which have been calling for much more power for Scotland. The main opposition parties have already taken tentative steps towards a joint response to the reforms.

Scottish opposition MPs met in Westminster on Tuesday to discuss the possibility of a joint action group and to set out a joint strategy for Scottish constitutional reform. Chairing the group was Campbell Christie, the general secretary of the Scottish Trades Union Congress.

Another meeting of the Scottish leaders of the opposition parties will take place on Monday, but joint action on the issue of Scotland's constitution is likely to be hindered by what is perceived to be an about-turn by the Labour party. Initially it appeared that Labour would support a cross-party action group. A meeting of all Scottish opposition MPs was suggested, but rejected by Labour.

Yesterday Mr Christie, who has been instrumental in the cross-party talks, said he was still optimistic that a joint response could be organised.



Christie: optimistic about joint action

Science looks for missing women

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

AN EFFORT to discover why so few women reach the top in science and technology has been launched by William Waldegrave, whose responsibilities include the Office of Science and Technology.

A committee of senior women scientists has been set up to examine the obstacles and to recommend how they can be removed. Mr Waldegrave said yesterday: "We're not using the resources of half our people properly. This is a huge waste, which we must try to correct."

In biology, he said, women made up half the graduates, but only 3.5 per cent of the professors. In mathematics and physics, a third of the undergraduates were women; a fifth of the graduate students, but fewer than 1 per cent of the professors. Among Britain's 537,000 engineers, fewer than 5 per cent are women.

The committee he has set up contains seven women but is chaired by a man, Professor Bill Stewart, the government's chief scientific adviser. Most of the work will be done by a working group chaired by Dr Nancy Lane, a cell biologist and a Fellow of Girton College, Cambridge. Dr Lane said yesterday: "We need to get women into science and then ensure that barriers to promotion are removed. To do that we will have to change the culture, the way people think about things."

Mr Waldegrave said he was opposed to quotas, but was convinced that change could come. He pointed to the changes at medical schools, once dominated by men, but now equally divided between men and women. "The medical profession has made itself accessible to women; now science and technology have to do the same."

The other members of the committee are: Professor Ingrid Allen of Queen's University Belfast; Dr Jean Balfour, farmer, forester and landowner; Dr Eileen Buttle, secretary of the Natural Environment Research Council; Professor Patricia Clarke, emeritus professor of the University of London; Professor Agnes Kaposi, a consultant engineer and formerly professor of electrical engineering at the University of the South Bank; and Dr Anne McLaren, a developmental biologist, fellow of King's College, Cambridge and Vice-President of the Royal Society.

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Foreign Office ascendancy sidelines Patten

Peking offers to negotiate on colony with London

BY DAVID WATTS

IN A further attempt to bypass Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, the Chinese government is to announce by the end of this week that it is prepared to resume negotiations with the British government over Hong Kong, after weeks of keeping London on tenterhooks.

The agreement to resume talks follows the renewed ascendancy of the Foreign Office sinologists and the Peking ambassador, Sir Robin McLaren, who have all along had severe reservations about Mr Patten's "full-frontal" approach to the Chinese. The governor has refused to see China as having special characteristics markedly different from any other country.

Mr Patten has played no direct part in the recent exchanges with the Chinese government and will have no role to play when the negotiations resume. The Chinese strategy has been to cut the governor out of the talks and make him pay the price for what they see as his deceit. But, however much they may object to him, Peking recognises that virtually every decision taken in Hong Kong from now on will straddle 1997 and China will need to have an input even down to such minutiae as the siting of rubbish tips.

The green light for further talks comes after some of the most intensive diplomacy between London and Peking since the negotiations which led to the 1984 agreement to hand over the territory in 1997. The prolonged stand-off has been accompanied by dire threats from Peking's diplomatic and media representatives in the colony of potential economic and social damage to Hong Kong if Mr Patten did not back down on his proposals for greater democracy.

In a further sign that the deadlock has been broken, Mr Patten has postponed his trip to Japan, which was to have begun today. He is now expected to leave on Friday after making a statement. An announcement from Peking is expected at the same time and Mr Patten will now return a day early from Tokyo, on Sunday.

Peking may yet be willing to be flexible and may see merit in agreeing to a package that is not so far removed from the one Mr Patten has been proposing. What is important to China is that it is seen to be agreed in Peking with the government in London with minimal input from Hong Kong and with no right of modification by the Legislative Council in the colony. There is no objection to Mr Patten going through the motions with the Legislative Council, so long as the resulting document is clearly marked "Made in Peking".

There may still be a series of anti-Patten blasts before the two sides even manage to get together. The first is likely to come at the meeting of the Chinese parliament in the middle of this month. However, there was good news for both Hong Kong and Peking yesterday when the new budget proposals brought tax cuts in the colony and a commitment that there would still be $10 billion (£7 billion) in the kitty when the Chinese take over in 1997.

The agreement to talk things through has been delayed not least by what Peking feels is an increasingly hostile international environment. A potentially hostile government has just come to power in Washington and is already signalling that China has little chance of joining the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). About the only trustworthy friend in sight is Singapore, on which China intends to model its socio-economic development.

Leading article, page 19



Homeward bound: Cambodian refugee Phorn Sithorn yesterday taking a last look outside Khao-I-Dang camp in Thailand before leaving to be repatriated. The camp, from which emerged the first stories of the Khmer Rouge "killing fields", is being closed as refugees return under the 1991 Paris peace accords on Cambodia

Multiparty talks to go ahead despite murders in Natal

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

THE first multiparty negotiations for ten months open tomorrow at the World Trade Centre on the outskirts of Johannesburg to try to establish a forum for the resumption of talks about the transition to a non-racial democracy on South Africa.

The talks will take place despite the murder of six schoolchildren in the Natal Midlands, which all sides appear to regard as an attempt by extremists to disrupt them.

Roelf Meyer, the constitutional development minister, said yesterday that, since August 1990, "every time we have moved on to a big occasion in negotiation there was always an increase in violent activities".

The African National Congress also issued a statement yesterday saying: "This most recent massacre is a deliberate attempt to provoke renewed conflict and destabilise the scheduled multiparty planning conference." The Natal Midlands region of the ANC in its statement nervously added: "We are extremely concerned that this is a deliberate act to stoke the fires of violence even further in Natal. We are convinced that this is calculated to prepare the ground for unprecedented attacks on the ANC in Natal this week. It is very clear to us that this is part of the pattern of violence as seen in the past, where violence is deliberately intensified when there is an important event in the national political calendar."

The talks opening tomorrow will run into a second day and will be attended by all the main players in the political spectrum, from the Conservative Party and its dissident faction, the Afrikaner Volksunie, on the hard right, to the Pan Africanist Congress on the militant left. None of these extreme groups attended the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) that ground to a halt last April.

According to Mr Meyer, some of the possible obstacles on the way to the resumption of negotiations have been removed by the bilateral conversations that have been taking place between the various parties, in particular between the government and the ANC, but also between both of them and the Inkatha Freedom Party, and the Conservatives.

The government's talks with the Pan Africanist Congress, however, have failed to resolve anything to the government's satisfaction. The two sides met in Gaborone in neighbouring Botswana on Tuesday when Hernus Kriel, the law and order minister, tried to get the PAC and its armed wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army, to call off their armed struggle that has resulted recently in the deaths of whites in the border region of the Eastern Cape. The PAC and the liberation army refused to do so and the government said yesterday that it will object to the PAC taking part in the constitutional negotiating forum until they change their mind.

Mr Meyer said that, although the government is opposed to the PAC presence, it will not be able to prevent it attending the planning conference tomorrow.



Meyer: objections to PAC policy remain

☐ **Laughing gunman:** A South African policeman was killed by a "laughing gunman" yesterday. He had been accompanying a delivery driver in Alexandra black township in the Johannesburg suburbs. A gunman approached the vehicle, laughed and fired. *(AFP)*

Kuwait to enforce Islamic values

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

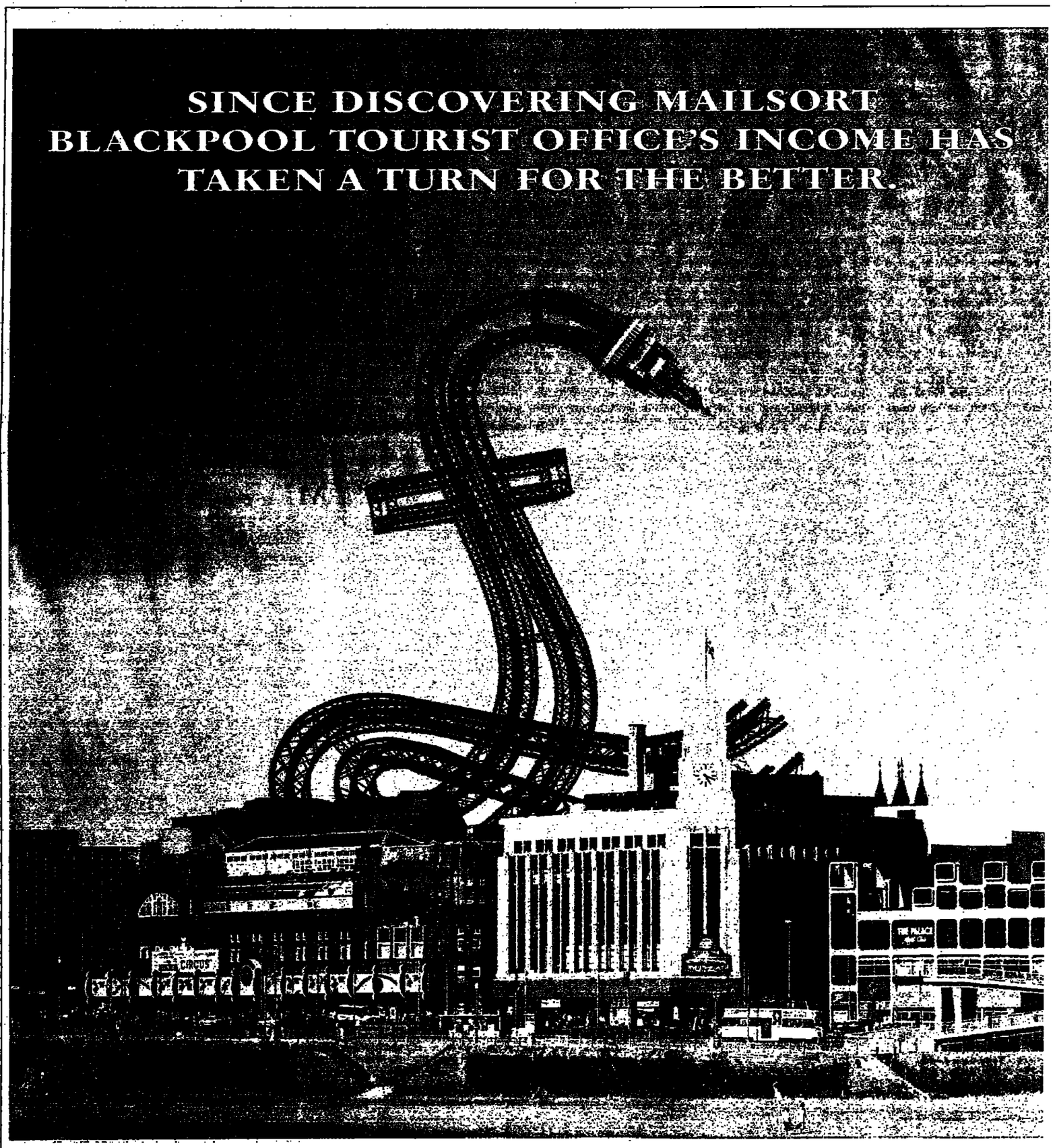
TWO years after its liberation from Iraq, Kuwait has tilted towards Islamic fundamentalism with the proposed establishment of a 15-member *mutawa* committee to impose Islamic values on the 1.3 million population.

A draft law to set up the committee was published this week. Arab diplomatic sources said it was likely to receive backing from parliament and Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah, the emir.

Secular Kuwaitis, dismayed by the Islamisation trend since 1990, fear the move could lead to the formation of religious police similar to those in neighbouring Saudi Arabia. But the Kuwait-published *Arab Times* said that the new committee, consisting of seven government and eight public representatives, would spread Islamic values through "gentle advice", not force.

According to the draft legislation, committee members would not patrol the streets with whips like the bearded Saudi *mutawa* to enforce the closure of shops for prayer five times a day, or compel women to cover their hair and arms. The committee would fight "alien traditions and customs" that contradicted Islamic teachings. It would respond to public complaints, relaying them to the appropriate agency.

Although Kuwait has long banned alcohol, its enforcement of Islamic rules is much more relaxed than in Saudi Arabia.



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Paris kings of culture fight it out over the pickings of patronage


Bergé: opera director being sued for assault

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

With the approach of the elections, the French cultural elite that has done so well under the doomed Socialists is now on the look-out for a fresh crop of patrons

PRESIDENT Mitterrand might be credited with fostering more official culture than any French leader since Louis XIV, but the pre-electoral bad manners of some of his courtiers would have had them thrown out of Versailles.

The surest sign of trouble in the cultural kingdom was a punch-up at the Pompidou Centre during the ceremonial opening of the Matisse exhibition by M Mitterrand and Jack Lang, the culture and education minister and grand chamberlain of the arts. Dozens of the Paris elite spilled their champagne in disbelief as Pierre Bergé, director of the National Opera and boss of the Yves St Laurent empire, leapt on Michel Schneider, who served as M Lang's director of music and dance until 1991, screaming: "Heap of merde ... troublemaker, ignoble personage!" according to the weekly *Canard Enchaîné* yesterday. M Bergé kicked and punched M Schneider, witnesses added. Guards broke up the fight and saved Matisse's "Femme Allongée sur un canapé".

The crime of M Schneider, who announced yesterday that he is suing M Bergé for assault, is one of *lèse-majesté*. Weeks before elections that are certain to bring down the curtain on the ten-year Lang era, M Schneider has sketched a vitriolic insider's portrait of the follies of the "cultural state". His book, *La Comédie de la Culture*, has handed explosive ammunition to the conservative leaders who are busy trying to convince recipients of M Lang's largesse that right-wing does not rhyme with philistine.

The hungry and artistically ambitious who missed out on the Socialist generosity are easy pickings for the Gaullist coalition, which promises to be just as generous a patron, although to different clients. Bashing the ancien régime is therefore the first step to future favour.

Anti-Schneider fury spilled on to television last week when Pierre Boulez, the "court composer" as critics call him, subjected M Schneider to verbal abuse in M Lang's presence on the prime-time cultural show run by Bernard Pivot. The television presenter reported that his decision to invite M Schneider had made his name mud at Fouquet's, the Champs-Elysées hang-out of the arts nobility. Among his many controversial acts, the flamboyant M Lang saved Fouquet's from demolition a couple of years ago by declaring it a protected *Lieu de Mémoire*.

M Schneider's blast against "the vanity of our ministry of happy modernity" dug over ground that has been well trodden by dissidents over the past couple of years. The thesis is that M Lang has poured tens of billions of francs into promoting empty spectacle, grandiose architecture, flattering the megalomaniac egos of his cronies and creating a modern-day "academy" of pompous art. The perfect symbol of Langian banality, the critics say, are the black and white striped columns by Daniel Buren that grace the courtyard outside M Lang's offices in the 18th-century Palais Royal.

"The state has been transformed by artists into a self-service subsidy supplier, leaving the public disinherited," M Schneider says. M Lang, the only minister to have held office through the whole Socialist administration, is castigated for worshiping vulgarity and raising rappers, chefs, couturiers, strip cartoonists, software engineers and stars such as Sylvester Stallone to the rank of "creators" while theatre attendance, book-buying and the audiences for French films have stagnated or sunk. The defining moment, the critics say, was M Lang's recent plea to be photographed with a rap ensemble.

M Lang, however, is recognised by the opposition as a tough act to follow. His enthusiasm and genius for publicity have made him consistently the most popular member of the Socialist administration. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader and Paris mayor, is treading gingerly, promising to redirect, not cut, an arts budget that has reached 14 billion francs (£1.7 billion) a year, nearly eight times higher than Britain's £225 million.

The opposition is not buying the dissidents' argument that the state has no business trying to pick winners in the creative world. It wants, among other things, to put discipline back into arts education, promoting reading and musical and artistic skills. It also aims to create a French version of Britain's National Trust and cut back on the *grands travaux*, those mammoth Paris projects such as the Louvre pyramid and the Bastille Opéra that it says have been built to immortalise the glories of France's modern Sun-King.

Paris builders are breaking speed records on the Left Bank of the Seine, the site of the new Library of France. A Mitterrand-Lang scheme jocularly called *La Très Grande Bibliothèque* on the model of the TGV trains, the building will be the biggest book repository in the world. The Socialists want to get enough of the building built to make it impossible for the conservatives to scrap the project.

Meanwhile, M Lang has been immortalised on the portal of the cathedral of Blois, the city where he is also mayor. One of the sculptors renovating the edifice secretly modeled a cherub on the modern minister of happiness.

Clinton insists US relief airdrops to Bosnia will continue

BY IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TROUBLED by reports of a Serbian massacre in eastern Bosnia, President Clinton said yesterday that American airdrops over the region will continue.

His insistence that the aid flights had not been suspended ran counter to the impression left earlier by Les Aspin, his defence secretary, who suggested they might be halted after only three days. "We're continuing the airlift plan," Mr Clinton said during a photo session at the White House.

Aides said another drop was imminent, despite reports that the operation had spurred Serb attacks on civilians trying to reach the food. The United States yesterday called on the United Nations Security Council to convene a special session to consider steps to try to end renewed conflict and carnage. Reports of plundering, killing and burning by Serb forces as they overran the Cerska region have cause acute concern in Washington.

The US European Command is planning to send a team to Moscow soon to discuss Russia's offer to participate part in the humanitarian airdrops from the US airbase at Rhein-Main, near Frankfurt, Brigadier-General Donald Loranger of the US Air Force said yesterday. He said the team, consisting of a military officer from the Stuttgart-based command and four technical experts, would leave as soon as arrangements with Moscow were finalised. American spokesmen said it would be the first time that Russian military planes had operated from Rhein-Main, the hub of US military air operations in Europe.

Mr Clinton summoned senior advisers for his first meeting of the National Security Council for a briefing on the Balkans. At the State Department, Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, said there was no evidence that the dropping of American aid had provoked Serb attacks on civilians. His officials denied suggestions that the aid had caused Cerska to fall. The Serb push against the town began two weeks before Washington announced its airdrop plans, but the final Serb assault had coincided with the landing of the first US aid packages.

If the airborne relief operation is continuing, so too is confusion in Washington over the mission. The new American government seems to have been pulling in different directions in trying to steer its first significant foreign-policy action. The result has been a zigzag, lurching course.

White House officials conceded that, at the very least, Mr Aspin had given the wrong impression when he said in off-the-cuff remarks that the third airdrop launched on Tuesday night might be the last for a while. Mr Clinton shook his head when asked if the operation had ever been suspended. He did not explain why Mr Aspin suggested it would be, although senior Pentagon officials are known to consider the airdrops of limited practical value because the aid has to be parachuted at night from a altitude so high that hitting the target zone is uncertain.

The operation has been of a diplomatic benefit in being instrumental in persuading Alija Izetbegovic, the Bosnian president, to go to New York for the resumption of peace talks, although so far he has refused to take part in face-to-face negotiations with the Serb and Croat delegations.

Increased Serb aggression has made continuation of the American relief imperative, according to Mr Christopher. He said: "The airdrops will continue in light of overnight events. We've had disturbing reports of continued fighting in eastern Bosnia with refugees streaming down the roads. The airdrops serve an humanitarian function and they will be ongoing for precisely that reason."

There was little support at the White House for Mr Aspin's earlier claim that the airdrops had been a "great success" as leverage in getting the land convoys relaunched. His insistence that since the airdrops were announced the UN convoys backed up at Serbian roadblocks have all been let through could not be corroborated by observers in the region.


Mounting patrol: Bosnian Serb soldiers passing empty mortar grenade boxes as they patrol an area near the eastern Bosnian village of Visocnik. Milan Panic left office as prime minister of the rump Yugoslavia yesterday believing that a Bosnian peace agreement was near



Nato plans peace as Serbs overrun eastern Bosnia

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND ADAM LEBOR IN BELGRADE

NATO planners began talks in New York yesterday on the creation of a United Nations force to implement an eventual Bosnian peace accord, as the chief UN officer in the former Yugoslavia told the Bosnian Muslims that he would take control of Serb heavy weaponry if they signed a peace accord.

General Satish Nambiar, the outgoing commander of UN forces in the former Yugoslavia, said in a letter to Alija Izetbegovic, the Bosnian president, that a "control mechanism" for the Serb heavy weapons would now be possible. President Izetbegovic, who had complained about UN plans to monitor Serb heavy weapons only after a peace accord, was yesterday said to be close to agreeing on the new military arrangement at peace talks in New York.

The peace talks were, however, placed under considerable strain by the Serb offensive in eastern Bosnia. The United States called for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss reports of the massacre and forced deportation of Muslims from the eastern Bosnian towns of Cerska and Srebrenica.

Seven hundred Muslim refugees were last night reported to be fleeing from the village of Konjevic Polje, close to Cerska, which appears to have finally fallen to rebel Serb forces after a ten-month siege. The refugees are forced to brave Serb shellfire to reach the relative safety of the northern Bosnian town of Tuzla, a UN official in Belgrade said.

"We have reports from ham radio operators in Konjevic Polje that the refugees set off on Wednesday afternoon at 1pm with no guarantees for their safety," said Judith Kumin, head of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees office in Belgrade.

The Western aid operation to eastern Bosnia verged on black farce as local ham radio operators reported starving besieged civilians in the region trudging through snow to collect airdrop relief parcels but coming under sustained attack from rebel Serb forces. "We feel like animals to whom bait is thrown so we can be exterminated with grenades," said a statement from military leaders in Konjevic Polje.

UN officials have said they received reports of Serbs killing, looting and burning houses as they advanced through Cerska. A fleet of 11 trucks specially converted to ambulances is on standby in Belgrade to evacuate a reported 1,500 wounded civilians in Konjevic Polje, according to Lyndall Sachs, UNHCR spokeswoman in Belgrade.

Slavisa Rakovic, a Bosnian Serb official in the town of Pale outside Sarajevo, said the UN could not enter Cerska because of the fighting he said was still raging there. Agup Ganic, the Bosnian vice-president, told the BBC:

"Cerska had still not completely fallen. Our forces are withdrawing but fighting on in some areas, even though we do not have enough ammunition."

Jorge Miguel de la Mota, head of the UNHCR office in Zenica, said yesterday that the latest Serb offensive had been accompanied by a sharp increase in "ethnic cleansing".

☐ **Plea by Panic:** Milan Panic spent his last day as prime minister of rump Yugoslavia in Britain yesterday, and said he believed a Bosnian peace agreement was near (Eve-Ann Prentice writes). But he said that up to 150,000 UN peacekeeping troops would be needed to enforce a settlement. "The warlords will not stop when peace is agreed. This is a civil war and they will have to be stopped," he said.

Brussels calls for peace by force

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

A UNITED Nations agreement to partition Bosnia between its three warring factions might have to be upheld by force, the European Community's foreign affairs commissioner said yesterday.

Hans van den Broek said that if political and diplomatic efforts, coupled with sanctions, could not stop aggression and atrocities in the former Yugoslavia, "military intervention may be necessary". The Bosnian crisis was now at a crucial phase. "If no breakthrough is achieved on the basis of the Vance-Owen plan, the crisis will intensify. If an agreement is reached, it may have to be upheld by force."

Mr van den Broek led much of the Community's early, failed diplomacy in Yugoslavia when Dutch foreign minister. Now appointed to the European Commission, he is trying to rehabilitate the EC's ambition for a joint foreign policy against the discouraging background of the Community's inability to influence events in the Balkans over the past 18 months.

"Europe's toleration of violent border changes and ethnic cleansing in Yugoslavia cast an ominous shadow across other parts of our continent, where violence threatens to become the unpunished hallmark of extreme nationalist aspirations." The Commission yesterday announced the release of £50 million in humanitarian aid to the former Yugoslavia, which will be delivered, where possible, by aid agencies. Manuel Marin, the aid and development commissioner, said he wanted to increase the "visibility" of the EC as the main donor but that the problems of delivery were in the UN's hands.

Mr van den Broek said that the EC should strengthen links with Central and Eastern Europe by setting up a "European political area" when the Maastricht treaty is ratified.

He said that Eastern European governments should be involved in discussions before becoming Community members. The designation of a political area deliberately echoes the European Economic Area, a single market soon to be created by the EC and six Scandinavian and alpine neighbours.

EC leaders are due to debate their relations with Eastern Europe over the next few months, reaching decisions at the Copenhagen summit in June. Recession-struck governments are losing all appetite for improving the region's terms of trade.

Hurd warning, page 10

Polish prime minister sees Major

Warsaw pleads for swift EC entry

BY ROGER BOYES, EAST EUROPE CORRESPONDENT

HANNA Suchocka, the Polish prime minister, yesterday urged John Major to draw up a timetable for swift entry to the European Community. Warning of future troubles in the former Soviet Union, the Polish leader said that current pledges to admit Warsaw to the Community, sometime after 2000, were too open-ended.

Senior Polish officials said they would like to see entry negotiations beginning as early as 1996, after the applications of Austria, Finland and Sweden have been approved.

Mr Major appeared to be sympathetic to this request, though not perhaps quite as concrete as the Poles would like. It has become clear, however, that the British government has adopted Central European entry to the Community as one of its chosen European causes. This is pleasing to Warsaw, if only because of the problems inherent in having Germany as its chief champion within the Twelve.

Mrs Suchocka's task, in her two-day official visit to London, is to persuade Britain that keeping Central Europe out of the Community is ultimately self destructive: it adds a further element of instability to a shifting continent. Her mission in London included a request to ease protectionist or anti-dumping measures on Polish goods (especially steel), to secure British approval to use the £600 million international stabilisation fund for other purposes (since the Polish currency is stable, the money could be better used to reform the banking system) and to raise Poland's credit rating, thus encouraging British investment. Since the Polish parliament has at last passed its budget, a package that is acceptable to the International Monetary Fund, there seems to be no great British objection to these demands. With the post-communist world developing at two speeds, Central Europe — Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic — have almost turned the corner economically. More than 50 per cent of Polish output now comes from the private sector which employs 56 per cent of the labour force.


Wörner: Poland first on list of Nato candidates

There has been strong export growth to Western markets, sharp productivity gains and a realistic hope that gross domestic product will double in the next decade. All this contrasts with the hyper inflation in the former Soviet republics and their drastic collapse in production.

It may be that Poland is simply three years ahead with its market revolution, or it may be that the former Soviet Union is politically incapable of adopting shock therapy reforms: either way the new East-West prosperity frontier runs not along the old Iron Curtain but rather along Poland's eastern frontier.

Unless Central Europe is economically fortified, argue the Poles, this advantage will quickly fade. The fall of Boris Yeltsin, for example, might propel 200,000 or more refugees westwards into Poland and break the already strained welfare budget. With this in mind, some concessions are being made by the West. Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, recently told Mrs Suchocka that Poland was first on the list of would-be alliance members. Hans van den Broek, the new European Commissioner for foreign policy, favours a new forum to coordinate foreign and security policies of East and West.

But these gestures do not square well with the reality of protectionist barriers put up against Central European exports. Mrs Suchocka did not demand yesterday that the European Community association agreements be scrapped, but she spoke very clearly about the need to amend them.

Erecting trade barriers at this delicate moment — when Central Europe is trying to create new Western markets to replace the Soviet Union — endangers reform, she told Mr Major.

☐ **Warsaw:** President Walesa was pronounced in good health yesterday following medical tests, having been taken to a clinic after suddenly feeling ill. He was back at work within a few hours, his office said. Mr Walesa has suffered diabetic problems in the past. *(Reuter)*

Photograph, page 5

Bundestag wisdom falls on deaf ears

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

DEMOCRACY in Germany's refurbished parliament will function only if nobody speaks. Outraged MPs, unable to make out a single word spoken into the new hi-tech system, have been forced to remain in the converted waterworks where they have met for the past seven years, and are now threatening legal action against the architects of the rebuilt Bundestag.

An altogether new meaning was given to the silent majority when MPs discovered that the expensive microphones would work only in conditions of absolute quiet. The glass walls of the round plenary chamber — a symbolic gesture to democratic transparency — do not absorb any sound, so every echo is bounced back and amplified, rendering all debates unintelligible.

The government is furious. It has just paid DM 256 million (£108 million) to remodel the former "temporary" parliament, fitting it out with the the most up-to-date computer-controlled electronics. Siemens, providers of the DM 6.5 million system, said the overhead microphone chandelier must be lowered to give studio-quality recordings. But that would block the television cameras and so they, too, must be repositioned.

The more it costs, the more the public begins to ask why a refurbished parliament in Bonn is needed at all. The government has promised to move to Berlin, and is preparing to spend billions on rebuilding the Reichstag.

But the move to Berlin, strongly resisted by many west Germans, who see in it a victory for centralism and Prussian hegemony, may be postponed indefinitely. The city of Bonn, which stands to lose more than half its population and faces bankruptcy, insists the move is too expensive.

Many MPs, worried about selling their houses and giving up their tranquil environment here, are quietly trying to sabotage the planned move. Instead of scaling down the grandiose plans for a new government headquarters, many MPs insist that they will move only when an entire new complex has been completed. Some speak of waiting until 2010.

Generals urge action by Yeltsin to break political deadlock

The Russian armed forces see themselves as the arbiters of national unity. Boris Yeltsin is courting them, but winning their support would radically change the nature of his presidency

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

COMMANDERS of Russia's military districts yesterday urged President Yeltsin to "take resolute measures to end the country's political crisis", according to the evening newspaper *Izvestia*.

The move came after a meeting of Russia's National Security Council, at which the president gave a warning that the present political deadlock could lead to Russia's disintegration. The meeting has led to reports that Mr Yeltsin was seeking the military's support in advance of a crucial meeting next week of Russia's legislative body, the Congress of People's Deputies, to seek ways out of the constitutional deadlock.

President Yeltsin said this week that, if the conservative majority in the congress refuses to accept his proposals, he might have to take radical measures. These are generally assumed to involve a "coup from above" to dissolve the parliament and change the constitution by decree — but for this he would need the support of the army.

Hitherto, such approaches by Mr Yeltsin to the military have been snubbed. Yesterday's statement by the generals is vaguely worded, but nevertheless marks a step towards greater political involvement by the military, which the high command has so far strongly opposed.

In the autumn and winter, military leaders reportedly refused to give their support to private suggestions from President Yeltsin that he might unilaterally dissolve the parliament. At the Congress of People's Deputies in December, the defence and security ministers said that their institutions would obey the constitution and not back any political group — statements interpreted as a rebuff for Mr Yeltsin.

Since then the political confrontation between president and parliament has developed to a point where it seems to threaten effective government and even the unity of the country. In a dramatic speech yesterday, President Yeltsin gave a warning that the opposition in parliament risked blowing Russia apart, leading to "centuries of war" between dozens of small principalities. In a similar warning last month, he called the armed forces the "guarantors of Russia's stability".

There was some encouraging news for Mr Yeltsin yesterday when Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, pledged his support for the Russian president and promised to help him in his tough negotiations with the International Monetary Fund. Herr Kohl said he had no doubt that Mr Yeltsin would succeed in reforming the economy.

On Tuesday, when he spoke of "radical measures", Mr Yeltsin said that, if the congress also rejected his plans for a referendum on the constitution next month, he would carry out his own nationwide "opinion poll" on where supreme executive authority should lie.

For this poll, too, he might need the help of the security forces, given the opposition to such a move by several Russian regional governments. Mr Yeltsin did not elaborate on what these "radical measures" might be, but they are assumed to include dissolving the parliament, introducing presidential rule and promulgating a new constitution by decree.

Such a move by Mr Yeltsin would deeply divide the armed forces, making its success very doubtful. On the one hand, several senior commanders, and in particular General Pavel Grachev, the defence minister, owe their present posts to Mr Yeltsin. General Grachev has been bitterly attacked by conservative officers from within the armed forces, and could probably expect to lose his post if the president fell.

However, whether the army as a whole would back President Yeltsin in taking extra-constitutional steps to break the deadlock is much more doubtful. Most officers are bitterly angry with the government for Russia's collapse as a great power and their own steeply falling living standards. The single most powerful network among the generals is made up of men who were middle-ranking officers in Afghanistan. They do not feel they owe anything to Mr Yeltsin.

The army has always been the backbone of the Russian state and of Russian unity and is very likely at some stage in the next few years to assert this role. Whether it would do so in the service of Mr Yeltsin is another matter. If it did back him against the parliament, he would no longer be the president he is today but would have become the army's creature.

☐ **Kuala Lumpur:** Moscow has offered to sell sophisticated guns, tanks and submarines to Malaysia after upgrading a package to sell jet fighters. The deal came a day after the United States agreed to slash the price of F18 and F16 fighters it wanted to sell to Malaysia. *(AFP)*



Grachev: could lose job if Mr Yeltsin falls

Russian gangsters, page 18
Diary, page 18

Somalia aid teams angered by envoy

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

ROBERT Oakley, the American special envoy to Somalia, ended his tour of duty yesterday amid bitter criticism from aid workers that their staff were now in more danger than before the deployment of 30,000 US-led foreign troops in December.

His departure was marked by the death of an American soldier in northern Somalia, whose vehicle hit a landmine 100 miles northeast of the town of Belet-Uenin.

Mr Oakley, a former ambassador to Somalia, was criticised by Thierry Durand, director of the French wing of Médecins sans Frontières for East Africa, who said that Operation Restore Hope had only met one of its two targets.

"The first mission was to increase the amount of food being delivered and reduce the famine. This has largely been achieved in the major centres," said M Durand.

"But the second, to provide a safer environment for relief operations, has been a total failure ... since the US forces came to Somalia, three expatriate aid workers have been killed and God knows how many Somali relief workers. It would be a miracle if more expatriates are not killed by gunmen and bandits over the coming months."

M Durand, whose organisation remained in Somalia during the height of inter-clan fighting, said that he may soon have to evacuate foreign staff from two of their most important centres in Khansedere, about 200 miles north of Mogadishu, and in Brava, 70 miles south of the capital.

"The foreign military intervention in Somalia has started a strong xenophobic feeling among the Somalis who do not distinguish between foreign soldiers and foreign relief workers," said M Durand.

The heightened security concerns of relief workers in Somalia come after a series of clashes between warring clans in the southern port of Kismayu and violent demonstrations in Mogadishu against the US military presence.

A spokesman for the US embassy in Mogadishu said yesterday that the demonstrations, in which about ten Somalis died, appeared to have been an attempt by one of the main warlords, General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, to reassert his position after an apparent erosion of power since the American-led troops have forced clan militias to respect a shaky ceasefire.

The United Nations is meant to assume responsibility for military operations in Somalia on the departure of Mr Oakley, but no mandate has been set by the security council for Unosom II, as the new UN operation in Somalia will be called.

☐ **Maputo:** A detachment of 172 Italian peacekeeping troops flew into the Mozambican port of Beira yesterday as part of the UN operation in the country, Mozambique radio said. The Italian contingent will grow to 1,300 by the end of the month. *(Reuter)*

US rifle lobby guns for Clinton

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON'S legendary lobbyists have ended their self-imposed purdah and have come out publicly against some of President Clinton's economic reform plans and his radical attacks on vested interests.

The lobbyists' decision to lie low after the arrival of the new president was never more than a tactical retreat based on a hope that America's collective Clintomania would eventually pass by. One month on, and with no signs of Mr Clinton's popularity waning yet, they have changed their tactics.

Among the first groups to shoot back at the president are America's gun lobby, the pharmaceutical industry, the American Medical Association and the banks. They have all come under criticism and are likely victims of some proposed legislative changes.

The National Rifle Association, whose life members include Ronald Reagan and George Bush, was criticised publicly last week by President Clinton, who said it was an "error" to oppose a restriction on the purchase of automatic and semi-automatic weapons.

The association is intensifying its campaign in various states that are planning to introduce restrictions on buying guns. The gun lobby is also gearing up for total opposition to the Brady bill, which proposes a handgun waiting period and has the open support of the president. On Monday the rifle association scored a success in Georgia, where the state legislature defeated a bill to make parents legally responsible for the violent crimes of their children. The association said: "Education is the answer, not criminalisation and punishment."

The rifle association is the classic exponent of "lobbyism", which over the past year has turned into a dirty word, thanks largely to Ross Perot, who successfully put "lobbyism" in the semantic vicinity of "corruption" in the minds of your average disgruntled American.

Another powerful lobby is the pharmaceutical industry, which was Mr Clinton's first target of attack when he came to office. Mr Clinton had criticised the effect of the industry's excessive profits on America's spiralling health care costs, especially since differential pricing has put the cost of universal child vaccination out of the reach of some states. "We cannot have profits at the expense of our children," the president said. An example quoted at the time was a well-known anti-cancer drug, which carries a wholesale price of $1,500 (£1,000) for an annual supply, while the same drug used in veterinary medicine costs only $14.

It took the industry a month to present a response to Mr Clinton's attack. On Tuesday, in full-page newspaper advertisements, the pharmaceutical industry defended its record, claiming the average cost of prescription drugs has risen by less than other health care costs.

America's doctors have also drawn attention to their plight, fearful that health care reform might signal an erosion of their six-digit salaries. Even a seemingly innocuous proposal to reform the inefficient administration of student loans is under lobby attack. The banks are up in arms over a proposal to take away from them $13 billion in annual business for channelling risk-free government-guaranteed loans to 4.8 million students.

The final battle has yet to come. Washington lobbyists will soon have to appoint their own lobbyists because they are under attack from the president, who has promised a clampdown on the industry through more stringent registration procedures and removal of tax deductions for lobbying.

☐ **Florence, Arizona:** John Brewer, 27, who confessed to strangling his pregnant girlfriend in 1987, was executed by lethal injection after the Supreme Court lifted a stay of execution. *(Reuter)*

Texas siege, page 1
Cult members, page 3
Modern Times, page 14
US recovery, page 18



Gas giant: a 75ft balloon model of Arnold Schwarzenegger looms over Times Square, New York City, to advertise his new film, *The Last Action Hero*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rivals will share power in Kabul

Islamabad: Afghanistan's two main warring rivals met for peace talks in Islamabad yesterday and agreed on a peace formula that will allow power sharing in Kabul, officials said. President Rabbani and Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, chief of the hardline dissident Hezb-i-Islami party, discussed a Pakistan-proposed peace formula to end months of fighting in Kabul that has killed and injured thousands.

Under the draft accord, also to be agreed by the other main Mujahidin parties, Mr Rabbani will remain as president for several months while Mr Hekmatyar becomes prime minister. Mr Hekmatyar previously had refused to meet Mr Rabbani in his capacity as president. *(Reuter)*

Rioter jailed for two years

Los Angeles: In the first trial arising from the Los Angeles riots last April, a black man who admitted robbery, attacking a motorist and spitting on a white lorry driver as he lay beaten was sentenced to two years in prison.

Anthony Brown, 25, was ordered to serve concurrent two-year terms for robbery, assault with a deadly weapon and battery. Deputy district attorney Larry Morrison said: "Going over and spitting on a man that's almost been murdered is one of the most despicable acts I have ever seen." *(Reuter)*

Suspects held

Gaza City: Israeli troops rounded up almost 200 Palestinian suspects, and settlers said they would shoot Arabs on sight, after an Israeli was murdered in the Rafah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. The worsening of violence sparked a debate on an Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. A PLO official, meanwhile, welcomed the US decision to end contacts with the Islamic group Hamas. *(AFP)*

Pain tests

Harare: Zimbabwe's parliament said a doctor admitted illegal anaesthetic experiments in pain control on 500 patients, three of whom died. It has yet to decided whether Dr Richard McGowan, said to have been particularly interested in tests on black women, should be prosecuted. *(Reuter)*

Dung dowry

Amsterdam: Dutch pig farmers are marrying for manure, in attempts to raise their legal dung quotas. Daughters of farmers are being courted for their inherited quotas, following legal limits to reduce dung output. *(Reuter)*

Royal visit to Nepal

Controversy dogs princess in discreet mountain kingdom

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN KATHMANDU

Emerging from a thatched hut high in the Nepalese mountains, its mud floors and walls blackened from a fire smouldering day and night to keep termites out, the Princess of Wales ventured: "I shall never complain again."

Maybe, maybe not. But she must be wondering when the next public relations disaster will upset her first official trip overseas since her separation from the Prince of Wales. She hoped the five-day "working visit" to Nepal would prove her worth as an ambassador for good British deeds abroad: hence lots of visits to leprosy patients, children in hospital and Gurkha welfare projects. But controversy has followed her to the mountains.

She was said by royal sources to be upset over the latest "Squidgy" tapes affair, but remains determined to press on and prove herself as an envoy. She hopes to travel abroad frequently, both with government ministers and in her role as patron of British Red Cross Youth.

The non-playing of the British or Nepalese national anthems when she arrived in Kathmandu on Monday was interpreted by some as a snub. The Nepalese bandsmen certainly seemed confused, having practised for weeks. Since they were not permitted to play it, they felt constrained not to play the Nepalese anthem either, and puffed and banged away instead at something nobody could name, apparently a medley of Spanish music.

Senior royal aides conceded that palace courtiers had recommended that the anthem should not be played, but said that that was regularly the case with many leading members of the Royal Family. Palace officials are clearly irked about reports that the princess's trip has been downgraded by Nepal in the absence of the Prince of Wales. One royal official described the reports as coming from "fantasy land" and noted that the trip was a working visit with Baroness Chalker, the overseas development minister. It did not, therefore, have the status of a "full-blown visit with the pomp and ceremony that entails".



Princess: hopes to show her skills as an envoy

Far from downgrading the trip, the Nepalese seem to be going out of their way to make it high-grade, giving it practically all the trappings of a state visit. That is why the princess was greeted at Kathmandu airport by the pancha kanyas, the five virgins, the greatest honour that can be bestowed on a visitor. The children handed garlands to her in a simple gesture normally reserved for visiting kings, queens, presidents and prime ministers. Five is an auspicious number in Nepal and virgin girls bless all important family occasions.

The crown prince, the prime minister, foreign minister and a host of dignitaries also greeted her. King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya will host a dinner for her tonight at the palace, an uninspiring redbrick edifice that would serve handsomely as a supermarket complex in Basildon. In this poor country, however, the palace is a lavish symbol of affection for the Royal Family, which does not have to worry that its foibles and failings, of which there are said to be many, will make the local press. The king also has the advantage of being venerated as an incarnation of the god Vishnu.

Tonight's dinner will give King Birendra a chance to talk to the princess about his demotion from a king with power to a king with none. He was forced to give in to pro-democracy agitation in 1991, when he became a British-style monarch.

The local press still gush over him, however, and all the unsavoury things that foreigners say about corruption and marital feuds never reach his subjects. The Princess of Wales can only be envious.

Photograph, page 20

Colombia drug chief offers deal

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

PABLO Escobar, Colombia's most wanted drug baron, has offered to give himself up if the United States promises to protect his wife and children.

The former head of the Medellin cocaine cartel, who escaped from jail in July, made his offer in faxed handwritten answers to questions submitted through his lawyer by *The New York Times*. Escobar marked each of the three pages of answers with a thumbprint. "If United States grants protection to my family, I am prepared to accept imprisonment," he wrote. He said that if he surrendered he wanted to be imprisoned at Ataqui, near Medellin, "but not under police guard for obvious reasons".

Escobar said his wife, Maria Victoria, and two children, Juan Pablo and Manuela, were in danger. On February 19 they tried to board a plane in Medellin for Miami with US tourist visas dating from 1987, but police prevented them from leaving. "My children are trying to abandon the country because police, which is the government here, have threatened to kill them," Escobar said. Colombian officials said Escobar's offer showed that he was cornered and seeking a final deal.

☐ **Bogotá:** Two members of Escobar's cartel surrendered on Tuesday, hours after police killed Hernán Dario Henao, alias "HH", a member of Escobar's inner circle. Dairo Cardozo, alias "Chief", allegedly one of the leaders of hired killers serving the cartel, turned himself in with Gonzalo Restrepo Henao, allegedly his assistant. *(Reuter)*

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Maastricht defeat



Mission accomplished: the captain and navigator of one of the US Air Force Hercules transport planes describe their aid mission over Bosnia earlier this week

We're doing our darndest

On board plane No. 3, freezing at 10,000 ft above Bosnia,

Alice Thomson experiences Operation Provide Promise

My teeth were dry, my feet swollen, and I could taste the remnants of a violent pink Twinky bar. My oxygen tank was digging into my side, my mask was banging against my hips, and my parachute pack was getting tangled up. "Mam, we want to inform the world of our mission," said Tech Sergeant David Masko. We had just got off an American C-130 Hercules having spent six hours flying to Bosnia and back. "We hope you had the experience of a lifetime."

Welcome to Operation Provide Promise, America's first military foray into the Balkans since the second world war. Since last Sunday night, American planes have been making the journey from Rhein-Main Airbase, Frankfurt, to Bosnia, in a novel attempt to get aid into the war-stricken areas. Each night, they have dropped about 19 tonnes of military rations (21,850 meals) and 1.5 tonnes of medical supplies from the skies with true transatlantic panache.

First they sent food packs over from the Pentagon which contain the same diet the GIs ate their way through during Desert Storm. These include such wholesome delights as Maryland chicken nuggets, pork, beef, cherry drink, peanut butter and apple pie, each sealed in thick plastic so they can survive a 10,000-foot drop.

No instructions come with the Meals Ready to Eat, but the Americans are confident the Bosnians will sort them out. "Piece of cake," said one loader. "I am kind of concerned about the pork product for the Muslims. But I think they're pretty hungry right now. They'll probably eat anything."

The next step was to warn the Bosnians of strange objects falling from the sky. Last Sunday, one million leaflets were dropped in eastern Bosnia, saying: "Danger! For your safety, let the humanitarian aid land before approaching". Each pallet of pre-packed Americana weighs 1,500lb. The leaflets didn't say how the Bosnians were to know if the pallets were approaching.

The drops go on late at night, and the food crates fall 80ft a second. The US Air Force is nervous, knowing that the success of the president's first foreign policy initiative depends on its skills. Miffed by European criticism that it is missing its targets, unintentionally dropping the aid in Serbian-held territory, leading Bosnians towards Serbian snipers, and targeting areas that have already been overrun, USAF invited journalists to observe.

In two hours, we sped through training. Sergeant John Thompson, the head of combat control, acted as air hostess, giving us safety instructions. He reassured us we would not get brain damage if we took off our masks to scratch our noses, but gave us a list of precautions. "If you feel dizzy, nauseous, notice a blueing of the skin, or get tunnel vision while wearing your mask tell someone immediately. Don't go to sleep on us. We can fix you pretty quick."

On to the parachute training. "My guys are all combat veterans. We wrote this down as baby-sitting. Don't worry if we get hit, we are not going to leave you screaming in your seat belts while we jump."

He gave us a quick half-hour on the



Herculean task: the C-130

fun of pulling levers, falling in the dark and getting out of trees. "You've got to get that parachute off if you don't want it to drag you along and make you into dog food," he said. What should we do if we have to land? "Tell everyone you are a neutral journalist, smile sweetly, and head north," he laughed.

By the time we had finished training, I felt only vaguely reassured. Nine food and one medical pallet had been loaded into each of the four planes and we donned flak jackets and helmets in the dusk. I was designated plane No. 3, which had a *retrouseé* nose, patchwork cover, and a very young crew from Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina. "We are prepared for danger. This is a high risk mission, it is not a soft option by Washington. But we are going to do our darndest to get food to those poor people," said our pilot before I had even asked him. Does he think he's flying low enough? "We could go lower, but there's no point. It's no more efficient in proportion to lives and food lost. And it's a mountainous area out there."

Having waddled to our seats near the front we hooked up to the oxygen and headphones and were handed our packed meal. The noise of the engines made our ear lobes curl as we tried to force the ear plugs in. "You can pop them in your mouth, and chew on them if you're getting nauseous," one load master said.

The inside of the Hercules was like a huge artificial stomach with tubes connecting everywhere, red netting along the sides, and the food stacked at the back. The other load master, Martrena Hunter, 22, is on her first foreign assignment. "I'm kind of scared. This is my first combat mission but my mum and dad are real proud of me. Americans are right behind us. We all want to help this world from going up in flames," she said.

The first couple of hours were taken up trying to judge distances between the convoy, among murmurings that aircraft No. 1 and 2 didn't seem to know where they were going.

South of the Italian coast, the pilot dropped down to 10,000ft and checked the wind speeds. We had no fighter protection or anti-missile jamming radars. To minimise the likelihood of detection, lights went out. Then the aircraft was de-pressurised.

The load masters began checking outside for tell-tale rocket flames from surface-to-air missiles. Whiteness stretched underneath and the crews' breathing became heavier and heavier on the radio, their sentences more and more terse.

Lightning flared, giving everyone a momentary shock. And then we were nearing the target, Konjevic, zigzagging in sharp turns.

Ten minutes from the target, the rear door was opened, the temperature outside was -16C. Then the green light went on. The load masters, yanked the release cables and, like coffins going into a crematorium's furnace, the ten pallets slid slowly towards the opening and were engulfed by the air, their 26-foot parachutes opening instantly.

The plane surged forwards, but the voices were stressed. The doors had momentarily jammed open. There was swearing as they had to follow planes 1 and 2 in a series of complicated manoeuvres watching for the flashes of ground explosions. Fifteen minutes on, we thought we had been detected, the alarms started going, and flares went out from the plane. But we soon got the all clear, and "homeward bound" came over the headphones.

In the cockpit, the satellite communicator, who looked about 15, was reading a magazine. Everyone else was still working. The navigator, Captain John Cabaia, looked relieved. "It's tough because we were flying from a different base. But we have excellent equipment, and we have trained this inside out. At the green light, we were within 50 yards of our target. So they should have fallen pretty close," he said.

"You can't say it has been a total failure. We have been releasing on target, and our studies show that if dropped correctly the pallets should land within 200 yards of target. It's a lot better than nothing."

Can we break into this place?

Become an American minimum-security prisoner and enjoy many of the comforts of a high-class hotel

The former Indonesian First Lady Dewi Sukarno left her American prison a few few days ago exclaiming to reporters: "This must be the most beautiful jail in the world. We have ribbons in our hair, we wear makeup. We can wear whatever we want. It's like a country club."

Mrs Sukarno was convicted of slashing another socialite with a glass at a party in Aspen, Colorado last year, but she was lucky enough to serve her time at a "Club Fed" jail, the nickname for America's comfortable minimum-security prisons. The widow of the late President Sukarno declared of Pitkin County Jail: "It was great. I'll miss it."

Pitkin County Jail is tiny, with an average of 16 to 20 inmates at a time. Don Bird, the administrator, says Mrs Sukarno had a relatively enjoyable time because she had plea-bargained down to a misdemeanour charge, which meant she qualified for the most relaxed regime.

She was not locked in her 12ft by 8ft cell until 11.30pm, and the door was reopened at 8am. In the prison she could wear casual clothes, and because she was doing community service outside the prison, she was allowed to change into smart suits for work. Visitors are allowed for an hour each evening, and an hour each morning at weekends.

"We're in the middle of Aspen, and no buildings are taller than three stories, so there's a good view from most windows. Plenty of sunshine." Sounding like a travel agent, Mr Bird hastens to point out that he also offers "a large, well-equipped indoor gym, with electric windows that can be opened to let in fresh air in summer". Despite the enticing facilities, he thinks Mrs Sukarno is his most famous inmate so far, although he has had the writer Hunter S. Thompson, but only as a visitor. The food, he says, "is pretty good. Today, we've got a grilled chicken sandwich for lunch, followed by blueberry pie."

Hello! magazine, clearly thought Pitkin pleasant enough to do one of its "at home with . . ." photo shoots in Mrs Sukarno's nattily-decorated cell, which, it noted, "has a view of Red Mountain and some of Aspen's most expensive homes". The prisoner wore a variety of designer outfits for the shots, and informed readers that she spent most of her time on her community work for the Aspen Centre for Environmental Studies, where she helped in the office and did "sketches of wildlife scenes". Hardly hard labour.

The Club Fed jails mostly have no bars or fences, since prisoners are considered harmless and unlikely to escape. Recapture would mean a sentence under much harsher conditions. Club Fed security consists of a daily head count.

Many Club Feds have vegetarian or kosher menus, as well as extensive libraries and daily supplies of newspapers including the *Wall Street Journal*. Indeed, there is even a nickname for fraudster yuppies — yippies: young imprisoned professionals.

The crème de la crème of American jails is in Boron, a California desert town. Instead of cellblocks, it has redwood dormitories set on



Good time: Dewi Sukarno

landscaped lawns, and on a hill above the prison there is a white stucco church with spectacular views over the desert. Two full-time recreation directors oversee intellectual pursuits and activities on the softball field, the jogging areas, the fully-equipped gym, the swimming pool and the raquetball court. The only indication that prison land ends and the outside world begins are small "off limits" signs planted on the grass. The guards wear uniform, while the prisoners do not.

Even out of the Club Fed league, some of America's higher security jails still remain rather pleasant. Number one in the top ten was Fairbanks correctional centre in Alaska, where inmates wear Levis 501 jeans, have "total cable", regular contact visits and a dinner special called The Captain's Plate featuring Alaskan king crab, shrimp and fried scallops.

At Boron, the chamber of commerce asked if a fence would go up when the jail was being built. The warden answered: "We won't fence it unless people start to break in."

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Hallé way to allay coughs



EXPERIENCED politicians can gauge the success of their speeches by the volume of the coughing and nose blowing from an audience. But however boring speakers are, theyhave a microphone to drown the coughs of the noisiest chronic bronchitic.

Orchestras are not so fortunate and at this time of year they and their audiences suffer badly from coughs and winter snuffles. In consequence the Hallé Orchestra in Manchester has been conducting experiments to find a suitable cough sweet for distribution to their audience and have settled on a Swiss herbal lozenge, wrapped in a paper which *does not rustle.*

The faith of Kent Nagano, the Hallé music director, in cough sweets is not shared by the authors of the British National Formulary. They imply that the principal advantages of demulcent cough preparations, as it refers to them, are that they are harmless, inexpensive and that the *patients may have such a firm* belief in the sweets that they have the ability to relieve a dry irritating cough.

Coughs can be suppressed, and indeed cough suppressants are useful if the cough is dry *and unproductive*, particularly if it is keeping a patient awake at nights. The disadvantages of suppressant cough mixtures are that they inhibit the patient from coughing up infected sputum which therefore remains in the bronchial tubes or lungs where it can do more damage and prevent recovery. The correct treatment for a productive cough is an appropriate antibiotic.

If bronchitic concert-goers cannot bring themselves to miss a performance, they would probably be more welcome at the Free Trade Hall in Manchester if they were prepared to risk prolonging the illness by taking a dose of linctus pholcodine or codeine linctus (two commonly-used cough suppressants) before they went into the auditorium and did not rely on lozenges, however carefully wrapped.

One to exercise the mind



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

BOBBY MOORE'S death from cancer of the colon seemed to mock the reports in the medical journals this week of the protective effects of exercise against male colo-rectal cancer.

This research, initially published in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* showed that if a man took vigorous, but not necessarily violent, exercise during his leisure hours for at least 20 minutes on three or more occasions each week for at least a year when aged between 20 to 44 the chance of later developing cancer of the colon was reduced by between 10 and 25 per cent. Those whose job involved manual activity, as opposed to those involved in desk-bound or other sedentary work, enjoyed 25 per cent protection whatever the nature of their occupation: the only stipulation being that the work should involve physical activity.

The suggestion is made that the advantage enjoyed by those who take exercise may be related to increased peristaltic activity — the level of activity of the muscles in the gut — and hence the time taken for gut contents to go through it. This is the same mechanism, in fact, which has recently been observed in joggers: research work has showed that early morning activity can induce "jogger's trots", the urgent need to find a lavatory or well placed bush while out on the morning run.

Dr Roger Henderson, a Staffordshire general practitioner, has reviewed the research on colo-rectal cancer for the journal *Pulse*. He does not discount the benefits of exercise but does point out that even the authors of the report warn that the only other similar trial reached the opposite conclusion, that lack of exercise was not a factor in the development of the colo-rectal cancer.

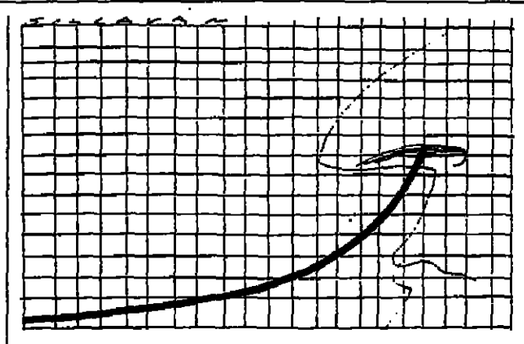
In Britain only cancer of the lung is a more common malignancy than colo-rectal cancer. Cancer of the large bowel, whether in the colon or in the rectum, accounts for 12.4 per cent of all British cancers and 12.5 per cent of deaths from cancer. Cancer of the colon is more common in women; cancer of the rectum in men. Worldwide studies of the disease suggests that diet is likely to be of more importance than the amount of exercise taken in determining the incidence in a population; the finger of suspicion has been pointed at convenience foods which are rich in fat and protein but deficient in fibre.

Even in communities where the diet is lavish, containing a high proportion of protein, and where cancer of the colon is common, vegetarians seem to have a low incidence. Likewise, in those countries where the cancer rate is low, heavy meat eaters seem to suffer disproportionately.

Probably of greater importance than either diet or exercise is a patient's heredity. Those with a familial tendency to develop colonic polyps are a particular risk.

Although the general public has been warned to watch out for the important symptoms — bleeding from the rectum, change in bowel habit and abdominal pain — and to seek medical advice if they notice any of these symptoms, many fail to do so. A recent survey in Newcastle upon Tyne showed that only a third of patients with rectal bleeding visited their doctor. A simple examination may sort out obvious local causes of bleeding but any persistent occurrences or where the blood is mixed with the stools, or any change in bowel habit needs immediate investigation with endoscopy and/or a barium enema, whatever the findings in the general practitioner's consulting room.

Most cases of bleeding will be found to stem from the simple cause — piles or fissures; and most cases of altered bowel function from irritable bowel syndrome. But the risk of cancer, or a pre-cancerous polyp, is too great to take chances. The procedure of checking a patient's faeces for hidden blood (the faecal occult blood test) is no more than a screening test. It is not a substitute for careful investigation and, even if negative, does not absolve the doctor and patient from the need to investigate suspicious symptoms in greater depth.



Spring noses run early

IN A week when the cold has been as intense as it is unseasonable, it was galling to learn that the mild winter has resulted in the hay fever season starting a fortnight early. Patients who are allergic to the pollen from early flowering trees, such as alders and yews, are already suffering.

Hay fever is an accelerating problem. The number of consultations with general practitioners about hay fever has increased from two million a year in 1972 to 4.7 million in 1992, and the number of prescriptions issued from two to five and a half million.

Hay fever used to be mainly a problem for country dwellers but it is now increasingly a common complaint in the cities. Research workers lead by Dr Jon Ayres and Dr Douglas Fleming from Birmingham has analysed hay fever cases in 18 urban and eight rural practices over a decade and has found that the town doctors saw a third more people with hay fever than their country counterparts. Other research workers have found similar change in distribution for asthma.

Pollution is blamed for the running noses and watery eyes of city dwellers. *Pulse* reports research by Professor Robert Davis of St Bartholomew's Hospital has shown that noxious urban gases may immobilise the microscopic hairs (cilia) on the cells in the nose so that they do not sweep away the pollen, or other allergens, before they are absorbed.

Is our fascination with multiple personalities helping to promote a myth? **Jerome Burne** reports


20th CENTURY-FOX

Seeing triple: Joanne Woodward as the girl with multiple personalities in The Three Faces of Eve. In Britain there is scepticism about the condition

One person, many people

'I usually see at least Renee and Jo during each appointment, and I can tell when a personality switch is occurring. There's always a pause, a lowering of eyelids. Then Renee comes in a flash — bright, gay and immediately orientated. Jo comes slowly, seemingly dazed, fuzzy, almost drugged . . . Sometimes the transformation period, which lasts no more than half a minute, brings yet someone else in. Those same eyes so pleading and full of pain in Jo, so twinkling and merry in Renee, grow cold and full of contempt."

That is how the psychotherapist describes working with a multiple personality patient in the recently published *The Flock* by Joan Frances Casey (Abacus). Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD) is one of the most bizarre and fascinating of psychiatric conditions and, with a ready-made supply of vivid characters, has long been a favourite topic for books, films and plays. Earlier this week *Not Fade Away* opened at the Bush Theatre, in Shepherd's Bush, west London, in which a woman and her therapist struggle to come to terms with a dozen personalities. But there is a fierce disagreement among professionals as to whether MPD exists at all.

In America over the past decade there has been "an epidemic" of MPDs. Experts have estimated that they may make up 1 to 10 per cent of all psychiatric cases. Some psychiatrists have reported seeing 100 cases in a four-year period. Dr Frances Howland, a psychiatrist, says in *The Flock* that many doctors still miss the syndrome and treat it wrongly by confusing it with schizophrenia.

In Britain, however, cases are almost unknown. Our more bracing attitude is summed up by a consultant psychiatrist who when asked what he did about MPDs replied: "We react to any suggestion by parents or relatives that there are two or more personalities by saying that there are two or more aspects to one personality and asserting that the individual must take responsibility for both of these aspects. It works."

What renders cases of MPDs so intriguing is that they are both bizarre and familiar. We all have had the sensation of experiencing quite different aspects of our personalities, ones that come out while drunk or under pressure. We all know what it is like to drive for a while without being consciously aware of it and many novelists describe how stories were planned one way but then the characters just took over.

But such apparent familiarity cuts no ice with the sceptical academics in this country. Dr Ray Aldridge-Morris, a psychologist and the author of *Multiple Personalities: A Case of Deception*, is in line with most of the medical and psychological establishment when he declares that for all its allure MPD is an illusion.

"These are people who are usually very susceptible to hypnosis," he says. "Even if the therapist is not using hypnosis directly, the situation is very hypnotic and we know from experiments that under hypnosis people produce multiple personalities very easily. We also know that a lot of the so-called physical differences such as changes in brain-wave patterns or immune responses can occur in hypnotised subjects as well."

In his book, he cites one of the few experiments in this area in which normal subjects were asked to fake multiple personalities. MPDs have been found to have different brain-wave patterns for their different "personalities", up to a 60-point difference in IQ, different eye and vision problems and even a different immune response. In the experiments the fakers were found to have even greater differences in their brain-waves than the real patients.

Perhaps more damaging to believers in MPD is the experience of Dr Corbett Thigpen, the therapist who discovered Christine Sizemore, the patient whose case was made into the 1957 film *The Three Faces of Eve*. Several years ago he reported that after "Eve" hit the headlines he was besieged by people who begged to be treated because they were multiple personalities. But out of the tens of thousands of patients he saw in the next 30 years, only one, he believed, was suffering from MPD.

Yet is this not just a debate about diagnosis? Such people obviously need help. Does it matter if we call them multiple personalities or say they are hysterical?

"I don't deny that these patients are in need of help," Dr Aldridge-Morris says, "but the key question is whether spending several years concentrating on producing more and more sub-personalities is the best way to do it. No one has ever shown that these people had clear multiple personalities before they went into therapy. Most of them have a basic personality that could be described as hysterical and one of the main points about treating a hysteric is to stop focusing on the symptoms; the therapists treating these people are doing just the opposite. By concentrating on fragments of personality in very unstable people they could end up harming them."

> 'By concentrating on fragments of personality in unstable people therapists could harm them'

Could it be that MPD is nothing more than everyday behaviour driven to extremes? Even Dr Aldridge-Morris recognises that we all seem pretty multiple at times, using different voices and gestures when we play with our children, have sexual intercourse or chair business meetings. But these, he says, are all examples of role-playing and quite different from MPD because however distinct our roles they are still threaded on strands of memory. The boardroom terror still remembers crawling about playing choo-choos first thing in the morning. But, "Role-playing can be very powerful," Dr Aldridge-Morris says. "It got teenagers to shoot children in Vietnam."

Many psychologists and therapists (as opposed to psychiatrists) do want to say that there is something multiple inside all of us. Writers such as the philosopher Daniel Dennett or the psychologist Robert Ornstein point out that it is not multiples of self that are the illusion but the self, there is no such thing. The computer is currently one popular model to explain this: we have a multitude of mini programs that compete to control our actions and thoughts. They solve problems and carry out all activities from riding a bicycle to love-talk

While psychiatrists may want to keep the ego singular, many therapists actually encourage a parade of internal actors. Jung has his archetypes — the eternal boy, the great mother, the trickster — while the related therapy system of psychosynthesis encourages clients to encounter their own sub-personalities; using visualisation they have conversations with parts of themselves and give them names such as the critic, the whore and the colonel. In their book, *Families and How to Survive Them*, Robin Skynner and John Cleese have explained families in terms of the similar demons that couples keep hidden behind their mental screens and which sometimes take charge of the action with disastrous results.

Many cultures have psychological conditions that appear because of special factors in the society. Among the Eskimos, for instance, there is Pibloktoq, a rare form of hysteria in which the (usually) female victim screams, tears at her clothing, shouts obscenities and even eats faeces. Among the Cree and Ojibwa Native Indian tribes there is the condition of Whitigo which leads victims to believe that they have been transformed into man-eating giant monsters.

Dr Aldridge-Morris believes that MPD is actually an American social disease.

In America there is widespread interest in role playing, particularly in adopting roles to get what you want. There is a great belief in self-improvement, the idea that the personality can be changed to solve personal problems. Here showbiz looms large and where psychiatrists are accorded fame and respect only slightly below that of actors.

The idea of multiple personalities is a familiar one. People have become celebrities as a result of having MPD: there is even an MPD newsletter — *Speaking for Ourselves*. Out of that potent mix something as bizarre as the multiple personality might be born.

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Leaf taken out of the herbal remedy book

Herbal remedy enthusiasts seeking comfort in comfrey will have to content themselves with tea or poultices from now on. Earlier this week, the government announced a ban on sales of tablets or capsules of the plant and the withdrawal of existing stocks from health food shops.

Comfrey, an ancient cure, has been banned by the government

The decision follows a Committee on Toxicity report on the high levels of pyrrolizidine alkaloids, known to cause liver damage and possibly tumours in laboratory animals, found in such concentrated forms of comfrey.

Both the leaves and the roots of fresh or dried comfrey — also known as knitbone or bruisewort — have been in use since ancient times. According to *The Complete New Herbal*, edited by Richard Mabey and published by Penguin, it is one of the "most famed healing plants with a remarkable power to heal tissue and bone".

Traditionally, the herb is taken for ulcers, colitis, bronchitis and other respiratory disorders. Externally, it can be used as a poultice or compress for varicose ulcers and veins and the treatment of minor burns. The agriculture ministry says there is no evidence of either comfrey poultices or teas having an adverse effect on users, as neither delivers concentrated doses of the herb.

Concern about the effects of the alkaloids has been growing for some time, however,



Persecuted plant: comfrey tablets cannot be sold

and most shops and producers have been expecting the ban.

Maurice Hanssen, the president of the Health Food Manufacturers' Association, which has 98 members, says: "We accept there may be dangers with heavy consumption over long periods, although there have been no recorded cases of any problems. You would be talking about people who were taking four tablets three times a day for pain relief.

"We have no problems with the decision. In fact, I think you would be hard pressed to find any on the shelves unless it was antique stock in some dusty hole. We do not want to sell anything harmful and we want open discussion about these matters. One important aspect is that the government has come to grips with the fact that all these dangers are dose related."

The legal position is that if a medical claim is made for a product, it must have a licence and be subject to laws governing the sale of medicines. If it is marketed as a food supplement (as the banned comfrey was) it is governed by food laws. "In fact the onus on safety is much higher in food than in medicine, where there is always a risk/benefit ratio," Mr Hanssen says.

The investigation into comfrey is part of the agriculture ministry's scrutiny of a range of dietary supplements. Under examination are products containing broom and mistletoe. Broom, a diuretic, is also used to strengthen and regulate heartbeat. It causes blood pressure to rise and must be avoided by pregnant women because it can stimulate uterine contractions.

Mistletoe slows the heart rate and has a sedative effect on the nervous system. There have been suggestions it may have a toxic effect on the liver. The use of both plants is already restricted to registered medical herbalists, doctors and pharmacists.

The comfrey ban has angered some practitioners of complementary approaches. Linda Lazarides, the secretary of the Society for the Promotion of Nutritional Therapy, says: "If you are going to indict a substance that has been around for thousands of years, you should at least allow a defence. But there has only been a prosecution.

"All our foods are loaded with natural toxins and our bodies cope with them. The committee have just looked at one component in isolation.

"There are people who have suffered iatrogenic injury, botched operations and so on, who have had to find their own solutions and many of them take comfrey for chronic pain. This decision is going to cause a great deal of distress."

LIZ GILL

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The Times and Just Results Video Production will contribute £2.00 to The Sick Children's Trust for each video sold.

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TRAVEL NEWS

British Airways is raising the stakes in the battle for routes within Europe. **Steve Keenan** reports on its trojan horse, a new French partner

Into Europe under new colours

British Airways is making a daring attempt this month to take on Continental-based business airlines in their own backyard. With Transport Aérien Transrégional (TAT), its new French airline partner, the former British flag carrier is to compete head-on with its state-owned rivals for business on the prime routes by taking full advantage of newly liberalised aviation legislation within Europe.

As a first step, it will start a service from Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris to Stockholm, while increasing ten-fold the TAT service from the French capital to Munich and Copenhagen.

The routes do not need to originate in Britain, and are the result of the third stage of a European Community aviation package that came into force on January 1. Eight days later, BA completed a 49.9 per cent purchase of TAT, which it has an option to take over completely in 1997.

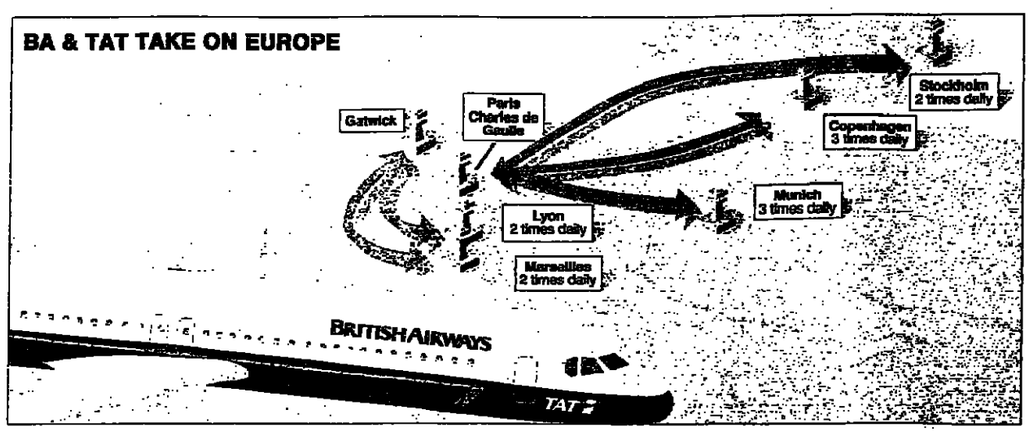
The 65-seater Fokker 28 TAT fleet planes to be used will reflect the niche role that TAT is taking as part of BA's determined drive into continental Europe. The jets are in BA livery, with only a token TAT logo on the nose.

Business people booking with a travel agent will see only a BA flight code. The crew will be French, initially, but in BA uniforms. And the aircraft will operate with a two-class service offering BA Club Europe and Euro Traveller brands.

The challenge to Air France, which operates all three routes, is obvious — but has as yet provoked little response from the French national carrier. All it has done is to schedule extra flights on the Copenhagen route.

As the first real challenge to the protected airlines of Europe, which have consistently fought British attempts to make Europe's flights network more competitive, it is bound to be seen as a test of the move towards freedom of the skies. The result could be an intense price, and possibly legal, counter-attack from both France and Germany.

BA is, therefore, treading carefully by offering only full-priced published fares. BA says that it has no intention of introducing special fares. "We have not announced any special fares and we do not intend to," says John Hanlon, a BA executive who has been appointed joint commercial director of TAT. As a result, BA will only match Air France's published fares of 8,040 francs (about £1,000) for a return business class flight to Stockholm, plus £2.10 tax. The lowest fare is £308.



BA is now focusing on the core business routes in Europe, leaving domestic and leisure routes to TAT.

Like other airlines, TAT's profits have fallen. In 1991, the TAT group made £4.2 million but last year this fell to £640,000. The airline is nevertheless a vital cog in BA's strategy of either taking over or taking a share in airlines in key markets around the world.

The new intra-European routes signify BA's first cross-border services with another airline. It will fly twice-daily from Paris to Stockholm and three times a day to Copenhagen and Munich.

Another coup for BA is the consolidation of its flights at Charles de Gaulle into Satellite 5 at Terminal 1 from March 28 so that services from Heathrow, Gatwick, Birmingham, Manchester and Edinburgh will be at the same terminal as the new international network.

BA is unlikely to pick up much traffic from those airports with direct services, but the one-stop terminal means that potential for connecting flights is greatly enhanced.

BA will also be selling tickets for TAT's domestic French network of 31 routes, which will keep the yellow and blue livery of the airline, and TAT will reciprocate by selling BA in France.

The tie-up is a strong arm to BA's European expansion plans. Its other limb, the formation of Deutsche BA in Germany, is different from the TAT deal in that the German operation has been started from scratch. But the potential to dovetail schedules and routes will be irresistible to BA and could lead to a network of BA aircraft flying between Italy, Germany and France. Should the respective flag carriers respond, fares on prohibitive business-class fares could tumble.

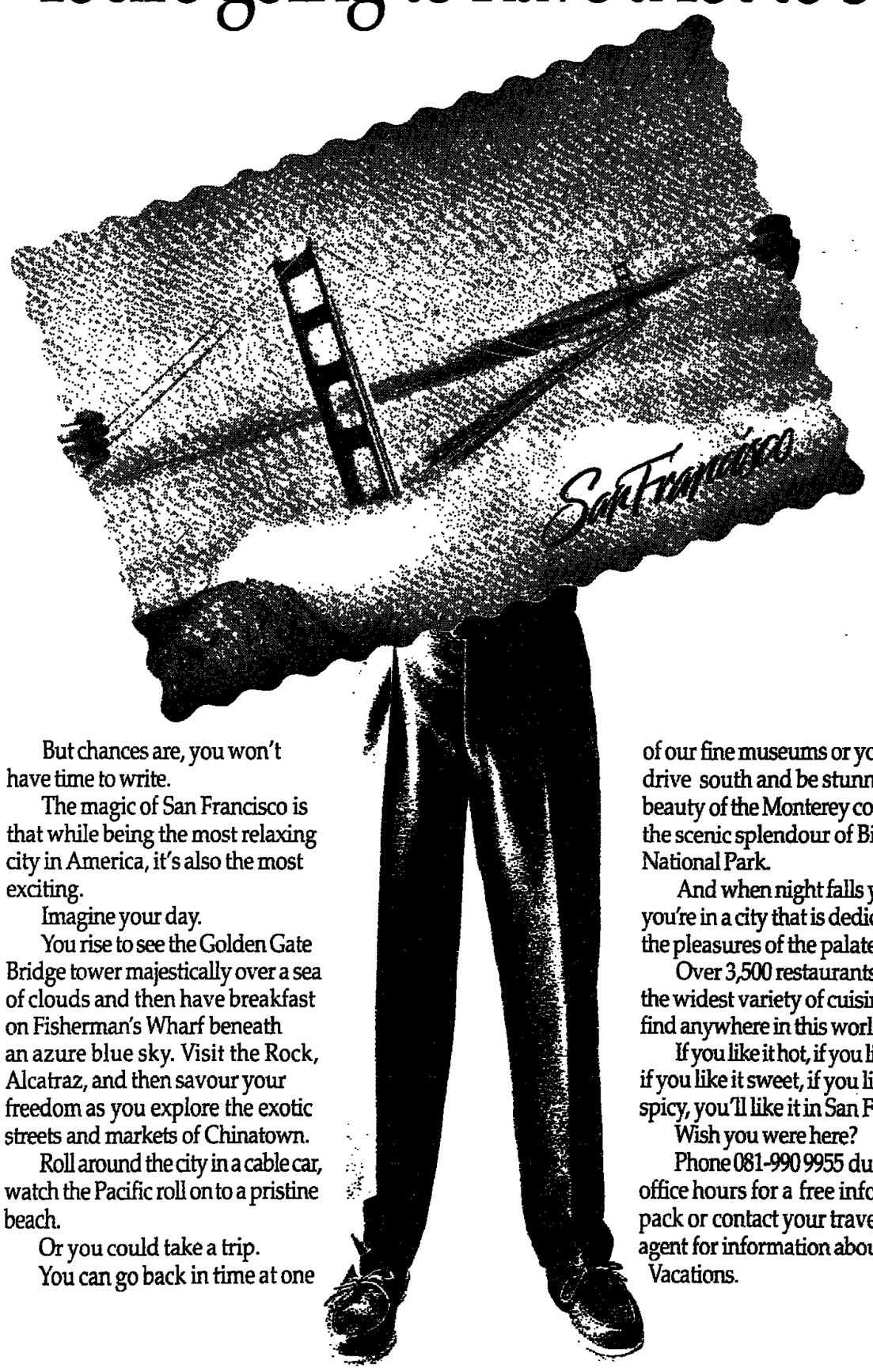
Peter White, BA's regional general manager for Europe, says: "The third package of liberalisation measures effectively created a single market in European aviation, so now any community carrier is able to set up and operate services between European countries.

"This is the first example of a cross-border partnership taking advantage of the new laws, and it will result in greater choice and increased competition on some key business routes."

A newly formed committee at BA in London has already met to work out how to expand the network and is believed to be considering the Lyon-Milan route.

"My first impression", Mr White says, "is that it is all to play for."

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Iranian hike

THE Iranian authorities have been asked to reconsider their sudden increase in the cost of visas from £14 to £504. Jasmin Tours (0628 531121) has more than 400 people booked to go to the Islamic Republic next month, and the company has been inundated with calls since the increase was announced. Jasmin Tours is now hoping Iran can be persuaded to bring in a two-tier visa system, with a high charge for businessmen and low one for tourists.

Key to the door

THE Berkeley Hotel, celebrating its 21st birthday this year — actually the 21st anniversary of its move from London's Piccadilly to Wilton Place, Knightsbridge — is offering a series of special offers for £21. Two cinema tickets, a bottle of wine and two *croques monsieurs* can be had for this price, as can three-course fixed lunches and dinners, day membership of the hotel's health club, or a cut and blow dry at the hairdressing salon (071-235 6000).

City savings

INTER-Continental Hotels have extended their European room rates with savings of up to 50 per cent until April 18. The programme is available at 41 Inter-Continental and Forum hotels in cities including Paris, Berlin, Geneva, Rome, Amsterdam, Cannes and Madrid. Prices are per room per night, based on a room for two, and include full breakfast, a newspaper and gift pack, as well as tax and service charges.

Prices start at £130 for the Churchill Inter-Continental in central London, FFr1650 (£210) at Le Grand Hotel in Paris and 329,000 Lire (£150) at the De La Ville hotel in Rome. (Inter-Continental Hotels can be reached on 0345 581444.)

Swing in the sun

GOLF fanatics can get tuition from leading instructors next month while holidaying in the Caribbean sun. Sandy Lane Hotel in St James, Barbados, is offering lessons based on those from the Doral Golf Centre, used by American professionals. Using Jim McLean's teaching methods as a model, instructors will concentrate on the full swing, the short game, course management and mental attitude. Elegant Resorts (0244 329671) is booking the three-day courses as part of a seven-night golfing holiday, including seven days' green fees, half board and return flights on British Airways for £3,100.

Bored with skis?

SNOWBOARDING for beginners is on offer from Fresh Tracks (081 335 3003), the off-piste skiing specialist. According to the company, it can be taken up by skiers and non-skiers alike. The company claims that within a week most people are proficient enough to ski down any slope. Prices start at £468 per person, self-catering. The price includes return flights, transfers and five days snowboarding.

Video hols

COSMOS Holidays (061 480 5799) is supplying tourists buying holidays to Florida with a 20-minute video of the local attractions and theme parks with every booking. The idea is to help them plan ahead, rather than spending the first day of the holiday seeking information. Free car hire is also on offer for each booking of four. Prices start at £449 for 14 nights room only. Seven nights for children and teenagers start at £99.

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Small firms face the big squeeze

THE post-Christmas boom in holiday bookings has petered out, raising fears that many small to medium-sized tour operators and travel companies could be out of business by the summer, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

The first "crunch" will come within the next two weeks as smaller operators are forced to tell charter airlines how many seats they will need for the summer season. For many there may be no point in trying to carry on.

Thousands of holiday-makers who have already booked may be forced to cancel and rebook with a larger company. Provided their original tour operator was fully bonded with either the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta) or the Association of Independent Tour Operators (Aito), however, there should be little problem. "Whatever happens it should still be possible for customers to purchase an alternative holiday in the same resort, and possibly even the same hotel, for roughly the same price," says Mike Grindrod, the president of Abta.

Before Christmas the recession and rising unemployment kept bookings at least 6 per cent down on the same month the previous year. The big operators and travel agents decided to stimulate demand by cutting prices and offering across-the-board discounts. It worked: in January bookings went up by well over 10 per cent. But now that surge has disappeared and even the most optimistic travel companies describe the market as "flat".

Customers are buying only when the price is attractive, forcing smaller companies to forfeit their profit margins or watch their bookings tumble and their cash flow dry up. At the same time the collapse in the pound against many other currencies has exposed smaller operators who cannot afford to buy foreign currency in advance at a set rate. Without such protection they are faced with having to impose surcharges — which will also depress their sales — or to absorb the cost themselves out of their already dwindling profits. Already one medium-sized company, Riva, has collapsed.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, has tacitly accepted that the gradual consolidation of the industry into a handful of large, vertically integrated groups is inevitable by giving the go-ahead for the proposed takeover of the second biggest tour company, Owners Abroad, by the third, Airtours. Should this take place it seems inevitable that a further squeeze will be placed on smaller rivals as the market leaders, Thomson, fight to retain their position with yet more price cuts.

"The industry is in a shambles," says Noel Josephides, chairman of Aito, which represents the smaller operators. "Profitability is nil and the whole of the industry appears to have developed a death wish. The public have become conditioned now to expect nothing but a virtual give-away. Price is the only thing which sells a holiday and all the protestations about quality being improved are being shown to be a nonsense."

CHRIS HARRIS

Sting in the tail of Goa's good life

Harvey Elliott on the dangers facing an increasingly popular resort

One tourist destination which has been unaffected by the slow-down in holiday bookings is Goa, on India's west coast. Tour operators such as Cosmos and Inspirations have increased bookings by at least 30 per cent this winter compared with last year and they predict that by next summer half as many Britons again will be visiting the region, glowingly described in glossy brochures and by the Indian Tourist Office as "an unspoilt paradise".

Medium-sized companies may not have Goa all to themselves for ever. Big companies such as Thomson have their eyes on Goa's cheap hotels, golden beaches, friendly people and guaranteed sunshine. They see it as the boom resort of the mid-1990s.

The development of Goa has been so rapid, however, that environmentalists are worried. They see it as an epitome of the dilemma facing the world's tourism industry: are the benefits of increased wealth brought in by foreigners outweighed by the loss of local identity and the effects on everyday life, as local people pander to the whims and cultural expectations of the Western tourist?

Goa, a former Portuguese colony, is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful, cheap and (until very recently) untainted spots on earth. Its 105km coast has 40 long beaches which are a delight for water sports enthusiasts and sunbathers. Inland lie some of the best-preserved mangrove swamps in South East Asia, spectacular waterfalls, the largest king cobra habitat in the world, wildlife in abundance and tranquil villages.

Over the last few years, however, this idyll has attracted the attention of holiday companies from around the world. Charter flights from as far afield as Finland and Australia now regularly fly in. Luxury hotels have sprung up along the coast. The opportunity to develop Goa was created in 1987, when tourism was accorded the status of an industry and a wide range of subsidies, benefits and incentives were given to hoteliers and airlines in the hope of attracting foreign currency.

By 1991 there were five charter flights a week to Goa and last year this had risen to 12. Although the Indian government has approved 18 first-class hotels with a total of 1,323 rooms, the World Tourism Organisation says there are now around 12,000 unapproved beds available and that by the year 2001 the state could receive 2.3 million visitors a year.

The tourists, many of them young "back-packers" attracted by the low cost of living, have in turn lured in thousands of tradesmen from Kashmir and other parts of the sub-continent who now dominate the local markets and beaches, much to the annoyance of the local people.

This sudden growth is worrying members of the environmental organisation Tourism Concern, which is now urging the travel industry to reassess the impact it is having on Goa. They claim that large areas of sand dunes are being flattened, thousands of coconut palms and cashew trees are being cut down, artificial lagoons created which could ruin fresh water supplies, beaches which have always been open to anyone ringed with barbed wire and prime agricultural land sold to foreign investors for potential hotel developments.

Hotels, they claim, are now not only paying less for their water and electricity than local people but often depriving them of their own resources completely. According to environmentalists, some large hotels have a guaranteed 24-hour-a-day water supply with a pipeline which passes through villages banned from tapping into it, even for two hours a day.

One five-star hotel, they maintain, uses as much water as five villages and one five-star tourist consumes 28 times more electricity in a day than a local person.

Although one new hotel could result in 400 jobs being created, the displacement of local fishermen, farmers and cashew makers can destroy almost as many. The additional income from hotels is "exported" because they are not owned by local people and the demand for fresh food and produce pushes up prices beyond the reach of the local population.

Local people are becoming increasingly concerned about the way that their quiet way of life is being portrayed in tourist literature. Their high code of morality is affronted by nude sunbathing. There is even increasing concern over the westernisation of the traditional lenten carnival which, according to some local religious leaders, is diluting Goan identity and culture.

"As tourists we are supposedly guests and our demands and expectations should not be at the expense of our hosts," says Tourism Concern. Goa remains nonetheless attractive to British tourists bored with the Spanish coasts and seeking to broaden their horizons.

Cosmos (061-480-5799), for example, is offering seven nights room only at the Dona Paula Hotel for £429 and Inspirations (0293-822244) has lead prices from £359 for a week in Dormhouse accommodation units. Kuoni (0306-743000) is also offering seven nights in the Sea Queen hotel from £399 with extra nights at £8.

Cosmos and Inspirations are planning to increase their capacity by up to half next season and other tour operators are considering following suit.



Working lives: Goan people are known for their ready smiles, but the region's everyday life and economy is threatened by tourism

FLYAWAYS

Thai breaker

LONGHAUL flights to Bangkok are on offer from *Flightbookers* (071-757 2000) at £389 return. The fare is valid for departures between now and *July 14* with a maximum stay of six months. The company also offers flights and two weeks' car hire in Los Angeles for £289 and two-week holidays to Disneyland from £459.

Amazon offer

AN ENVIRONMENTAL expedition to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands is on offer in April from Journey Latin America (081-747 8315). Leaving on April 1, the trip lasts for 23 days and costs £2,275 including return flights from Heathrow, all transfers, full board on the Amazon journey, cruise and an experienced tour leader.

Down to Alice

THE *price war to Australia* continues with Austravel (071-734 7755) offering fares to *Sydney and Alice Springs* from £549 return including a stopover in Singapore on *Gatwick flights. The company* is also offering direct flights to Brisbane from Gatwick for the *first time, together with flights* to Adelaide, Cairns, Melbourne, Perth and Auckland. *The winter programme runs* from October 1993 to late February 1994. Prices are guaranteed on flights booked before July 31.

Greek week

EASTER holidays in Greece are on offer from Enterprise (061-831 7000) from £170 per person for seven nights. Greek Easter begins on April 16; departure from Gatwick is on April 14. Flights are also available from Bristol, Birmingham, East Midlands, Manchester, Newcastle and Glasgow.

Downhill bargain

A WEEK'S skiing in Bulgaria from just £149 including bed and breakfast and a free lift pass is on offer from Crystal holidays (081-399 5144). Half board on the breaks, leaving on March 6 and 13, is available for another £50.

Travel News is edited by Harvey Elliott

A holiday on the land

Non-farming activities are boosting an agricultural college's income

The Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester, Gloucestershire, is to go into the holiday business. The college — the Sandhurst of the farming community — is offering "summer breaks" during August and early September aimed at providing inexpensive but good quality bed and breakfast for tourists.

The college, built in the 1840s, sits in 30 acres of parkland and sports fields in the heart of the Cotswolds. Cirencester, a town with a history dating back to Roman times, is only a mile away. There are 240 bedrooms which in term time house 260 of the college's 850 student farmers. Of these rooms, 44 have bathrooms attached. The others share one bathroom and lavatory between three.

A three-night weekend break (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) is on offer for a total of £75 per person, and a four-night mid-week break (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) for £100 per person. Prices include VAT, dinner and breakfast. Guests who want their own bathrooms pay an extra £30 a room per break. The offer runs from August 6 to September 6.

The college is following hundreds of farmers in turning to non-agricultural activities to boost income. The college has been hiring out its premises for conferences for some years and has been extensively refurbished. A £1 million renovation of the kitchens and dining room should be completed by June.

Teresa North, the conference manager, says the college is looking mainly to the group tourist market but will also welcome bookings from individuals. "We see this as an ideal holiday opportunity for older people looking for peace and quiet. There will be entertainment in the evening, including barn dances, country and western music, slide shows and whist drives," she said.

● More than 60 universities throughout Britain also provide holiday accommodation during the summer, spring and winter vacations.

They have pooled their marketing through the British Universities Accommodation Consortium (0602-504571) which now has 75,000 rooms available for holiday-makers. Prices for bed and breakfast range from around £13.50 per night to £22 depending on the university.

All the universities' facilities are available to visitors, from the bars to the sports halls, and with students demanding higher standards of accommodation many campuses are similar to three-star hotels.

● *The Royal Agricultural College, Cotswold Holiday Centre, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6JS. 0285 640644*

MICHAEL HORNSBY



Broad horizons: the Royal Agricultural College is diversifying

Jet lag? Pack that sun lamp

ALAN CAMERON, the Californian-based businessman and computer programmer, claims an investment of $9.95 (£6.86) is the key to beating the misery of jet lag.

For this sum Mr Cameron will dispatch by post a tailor-made timetable, the latest in a long list of alleged panaceas which include rubbing bodies with a special oil and taking sedatives or sleeping pills.

The latest idea has been given a degree of credibility by being published in *New Scientist*. Mr Cameron's computer-created timetable gives detailed advice on when to take meals and coffee and how to plan exposure on arrival to sunlight, possibly the key to resetting a bewildered biological clock, it is claimed.

Mr Cameron, whose firm, TimeZone Management Consulting, is in Irvine, California, says the postal timetables are based on research at centres including Harvard university.

The service covers long-distance flights between 40 cities worldwide. The timetable is produced by dialling details of the passenger's departure and destination airports and takeoff times into a personal computer programme.

Someone flying overnight from Los Angeles to London, for example, would be advised to have two light meals but no dinner and sleep at 11pm London time, whatever the local time may be. The following day it recommends five hours of sunlight starting at seven in the evening, so the serious minded are recommended to carry a sun lamp.

NICK NUTTALL

Manchester gains new terminal

THE Queen will tomorrow open Manchester airport's majestic new terminal two, through which four million passengers will pass in the coming year. Claimed to be the third busiest airport in Britain after Heathrow and Gatwick, Manchester expects to be handling 22 million passengers by the turn of the century.

The new terminal stretches for half a mile and will be developed in two phases due for total completion in 1997 or 1998, depending on the speed of market growth. The total cost of both phases will be £570 million and the new development has been swallowing around £1 million per week since work began in the autumn of 1989.

The two biggest operators at Manchester airport, Britannia and Air 2000, are to move to the new terminal, which claims a number of unique features. It has an environmentally friendly combined heat and power plant which should cover its £7.5 million cost in six years through energy savings. The plant, which also services the existing terminals, cuts significantly the emissions of carbon dioxide and sulphur dioxide.

SOME £3 million has been spent on landscaping, shielding the new terminal from Wythenshawe, the closest built-up area. A 150-year-old oak tree has been accommodated into the plan and the hope is that nature will cooperate by allowing tens of thousands of daffodil bulbs to bloom in time for the royal arrival.

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No.1. No Wonder.

Philip Howard



■ Tread softly when you tread on our place names, for they are our dreams and memories

So farewell then, mighty Montgomery and Radnor, worthy old counties both. But welcome home aged Carmarthenshire, Pembroke and Cardigan, proud names that have done the state some service in your time. Some of the old Welsh counties are making a comeback in the latest recharting of the local government map of Wales announced this week, almost 20 years after the last great upheaval, which created monstro-gigantic amalgamations that upset everyone. In the process it rubbed off the map familiar old place names that run naturally in rolling lines of blank verse, as that ingenious scribbler Shakespeare needing a bit of padding recognised.

Most people, understandably bored with the sums of local authority finance, pity the onomastic plumage but forget the dying bird. They fuss more about their place names than how well their local government works. To abolish their familiar names seems to threaten their identity and their family history, the ground on which they stand.

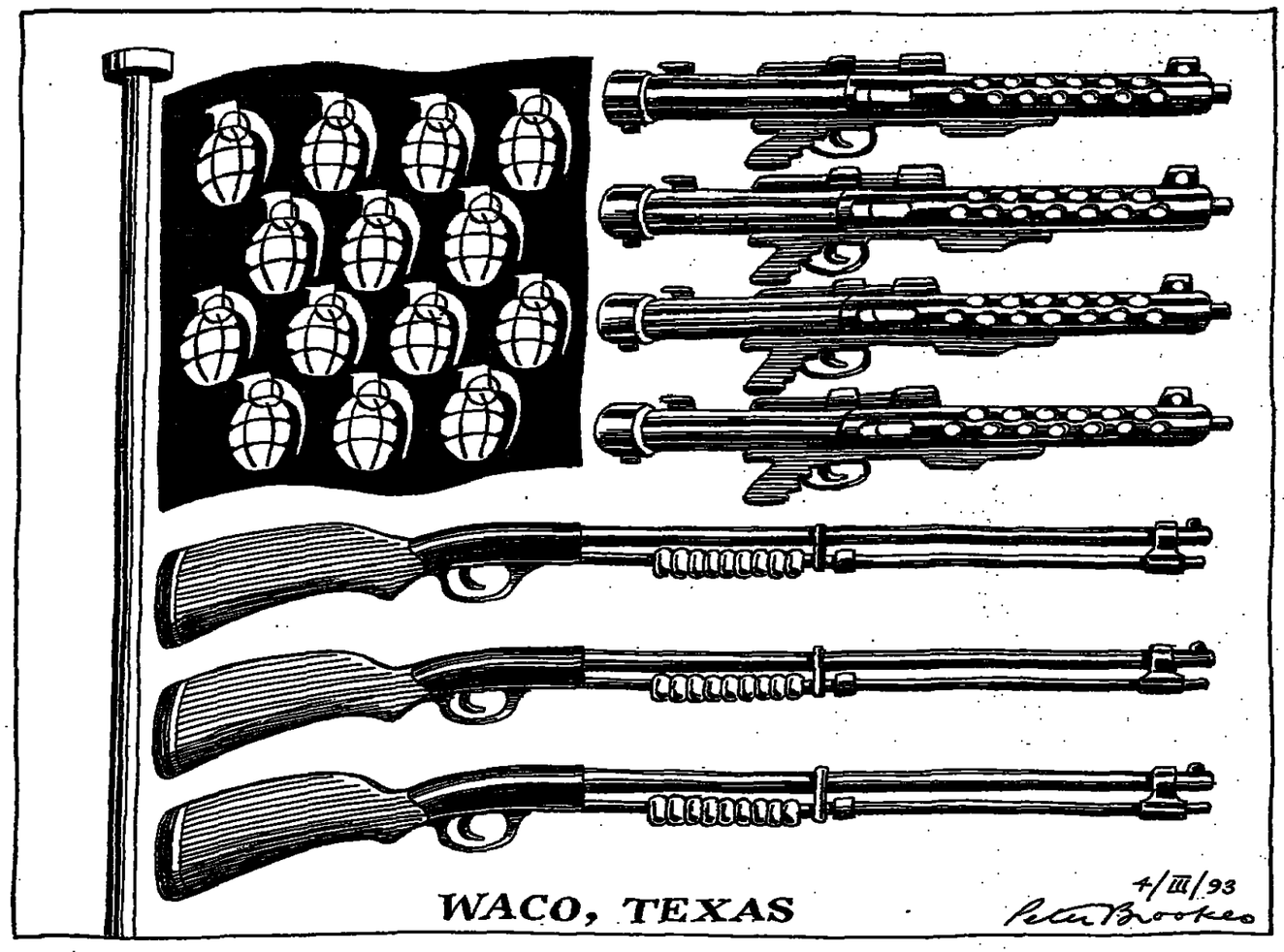
This seems peculiar in the United Kingdom, where our place names echo our turbulent history, and have been continually on the turn ever since the Greek geographers first charted this big green triangle on the rim of the known world. You would think that countries with more settled histories, and fewer waves of invaders, would be the more conservative about their nomenclature. Perhaps it is because they have changed so often that we are so possessive of our latest place names, which fight and invade and compete with each other and annihilate as fiercely as their nomenclators once did.

Some of our names have come down to us from the builders of Stonehenge. For example *Tamar* and *Itchen* are descended from no known British language, and were evidently here before even the Celts dropped in. The Celts, speaking British, the ancestor of modern Welsh, left us *Severn* "unknown" and *Thames*, perhaps, anticipating 20th-century pollution, "the dark one".

Romans marked our map with names such as *Catterick*, from *cataracta* the waterfall, and *Speen* in Berkshire, said with feeling from *spinis* the ablative plural of *spina* a thorn-bush. *Burgh* and *bury* mean Anglo-Saxons were here; *-by* and *-thorp* signal Vikings. *Devizes* means boundaries in Norman French. *Telford* commemorates Thomas the engineer. *Portobello* a victory in Panama in 1739, and a name such as Achilles Road suggests that a local councillor was showing off his or her classical education. All these polyglot names mix in wonderful mongrels and misunderstandings, as in *Lincoln* and *Cambridge*.

The Welsh county names that are being thrown out in the latest upheaval were romantically derived, and older than their latest replacements. *Dyfed* was a revival of the name of the tribe that inhabited this part of Wales during the Roman occupation, and was recorded by Ptolemy in the second century. *Ynys Mon*, which is to be replaced by the revival of *Anglesey*, echoes the last enchantments of the Roman invasion, when the legions stared across the Menai Strait at the natives at bay on *Mona* the mountain. As early as the 12th century, William of Malmesbury explained *Anglesey* as "island of the Angles". Wrong again, William. It commemorates a roving Viking pirate with "Ongull's island".

If Wales leads, can England be far behind? Bring back *Rutland* or the Old English "Rōta's estate". Out with the absurd neologism *Avon* (except that it is one of the oldest place names on the map, being proto-Celtic for "the river"). There is no reason, but much rhyme, in British place names. Most locals carry on regardless with their familiar names. *Beverley* "beaver stream", with the mighty minster, and godmother of Beverley Hills of the film people, still thinks of itself in the East Riding not in Humberside. Celtic *Carrick* and darkest *Ayrshire* try to ignore the administrative unpleasantness that they are now part of Strathclyde, which barely encompasses half the population of Scotland. Tread softly when you tread on our place names, O men from *Whitehall* (Henry VIII's burnt palace), because you tread on our dreams and our memories. And in our perverse nostalgia, we shall probably ignore your nasty new names anyway. Place names are the poetry of the people, not the politicians or the planners.



Will Clinton kill recovery?

New Yorkers will pay even higher taxes than we do, yet the US budget deficit may go up during the next four years

William Rees-Mogg

President Clinton is the world's president, both in terms of defence policy — where the United States is the only surviving superpower — and in economic policy. Normally the world has three big economic locomotives, the United States, Japan and Germany. Japan is still suffering what is probably the worst recession since the war, though the cash flow in Japanese industry is very strong and interest rates are low. Germany is in industrial crisis, with industrial production in January down nearly 7 per cent on a year before, and the Bundesbank still refusing to cut short-term interest rates. At least for 1993 the world economy is particularly dependent on America.

The latest economic news from America is, at best, mixed. The lead indicators, which had been rising strongly in the last months of 1992, rose by only 0.1 per cent in January. There was an unexpectedly large fall in January home sales, which were down by 13.8 per cent. That may have been distorted by exceptionally bad weather, but is the largest January fall since 1982. Many of the individual lead indicators were negative. They included the money supply, initial unemployment claims, consumer expectations, building permits and stock prices. Some forecasters have reduced their expectations of growth: Allen Sinai, the chief economist at the Boston Group, has said that economic growth might dip to an annual rate of only 1 to 2 per cent in the current quarter.

The aim of President Clinton's tax and expenditure package is to continue the recovery in the American economy, and to cut the US budget deficit during his period in office. If it fails to achieve either of these objectives, he will be in political trouble; the United States will be in economic trouble, and so will the rest of the world. He certainly does not lack public support. A recent opinion poll shows 59 per cent of Americans in favour of the plan, willing to accept the sacrifices required. There is little effective Republican opposition, though, as always, spending cuts will be difficult to get through Congress.

Much more formidable is the intellectual criticism. Some analysts take the view that the package will have a depressing effect, and may damage the recovery. They criticise the higher tax rates, which they argue will be a disincentive and will fail to produce the expected revenue. They are sceptical about the feasibility of the spending cuts, and worried by the size of the spending increases. When I was in Washington I heard much of this criticism from economists, both in the capital and on Wall Street. One can sum up their criticism as saying that the Clinton package will not cut the deficit but will kill the recovery.

This sceptical view has now been put with great force in the *Wall Street Journal* by Martin Feldstein, who is a former chairman of the president's council of economic advisers, and is a professor of economics at Harvard University. By any standards, he is a leading authority among American economists.

Professor Feldstein's view is that the Clinton programme would have the effect of actually raising the American deficit over the next four years. His analysis of the tax increases suggests that they could lead either to only a small increase in revenue, or to an actual reduction. The Clinton proposals are based on the assumption, which he regards as fallacious, that people will not alter their behaviour if taxes are increased. The richest taxpayers will have their marginal tax rates increased from the present 31 per cent to 42.5 per cent, and will continue to pay whatever local income tax may be levied.

In New York, for instance, the highest marginal tax rate will rise to over 50 per cent, a higher rate than in London. It will be the first time in this century that Britain's marginal tax rates will be below American. The Clinton increases will make tax shelters and deferred compensation more attractive, and will be a disincentive to marginal earnings. They will also encourage emigration, though the US tries to tax its overseas citizens.

Professor Feldstein calculates that almost all the proposed increase in revenue would disappear if the highest rate taxpayers were to reduce their taxable incomes by 10 per cent. Direct taxes have become increasingly avoidable, because business has become so international: it is open to many high earners as well as investors to choose their own tax regime, and they naturally choose the lowest.

Professor Feldstein is also critical of the proposed spending cuts which he finds implausible. In particular he does not believe that the world will become so peaceful that US defence expenditure can be cut by 25 per cent in real terms over the next four years. He does not expect that Congress will agree to that. His conclusion is that "The president's decision to avoid real cuts in non-defence spending and to adopt a counterproductive structure of higher tax rates leaves America with no credible reduction in the deficit. His plans to increase non-defence spending labelled "investments and incentives" by $160 billion over the next four years and by $55 billion in 1997 alone virtually ensures that the Clinton plan would produce a sizeable increase in the share of national income absorbed by the budget deficit."

During President Reagan's eight years, the US budget deficit doubled, and it doubled again during President Bush's four years. That is the present momentum of increase. If Professor Feldstein is right, the US budget deficit will not be brought under control in President Clinton's first term.

The United States remains an extremely wealthy country, but extraordinarily large resources are spent on a number of activities which do not add to future capacity to create wealth. They constitute the US overhead. The United States spends about 14 per cent of gross domestic product, or $850 billion, on health care. That is about the size of the GDP of the United Kingdom. Nobody knows how much is spent on crime, or on lawyers and litigation, but some estimates suggest another $300 billion, or 5 per cent of GDP on each, and it is known that $300 million goes on defence.

If one adds up health care, crime, lawyers and defence they alone come to around 30 per cent of the GDP of the United States. On top of that there is the cost of an ageing population and other welfare costs, also rising. There is an obvious danger that the total public and private overhead will crowd out the investment needed to maintain or improve American industrial and commercial competitiveness. That is already happening with the share the deficit is taking of US savings.

The comparable overhead of the other G7 countries varies very widely. The United States is exceptionally high in the areas of health, litigation, crime and defence, but lower than most European countries in pensions and welfare. Japan is low in most areas, though like most of the G7 Japan has an ageing population. Italy has a high turnover in crime, but the Italian drug trade probably produces a balance of trade surplus. The outlook for British public expenditure is relatively favourable.

Nevertheless all the G7 countries, including Britain, share some of the problems that President Clinton had to address. They all have a large overhead. His spending cuts attack only the defence sector of this national overhead, a pattern that would become very popular, and would be widely imitated, if it worked. They all face the problem of recession, or of the threat of an aborted recovery. If the mix of stimulus and tax increases does protect the recovery and cut the deficit, that too will be imitated. Indeed one hears some Clintonism in pre-Budget comment in Britain.

It is easy to see why the Clinton package of higher taxes and defence cuts balanced by higher non-defence spending might attract political support in other G7 countries, where all the governments are under similar pressures. Yet it does not seem to address the problem of growing national overheads, nor is it likely to cut the US deficit. People also resent taxes which they have been willing to support in opinion polls when they actually have to pay them.

The Feldstein critique does seem likely to prove correct. Yet if it does, that is bad news for the world. We need President Clinton to be a success. We need the American recovery to continue, for the German, if not the Japanese, influence in 1993 is going to be negative. The United States is the only economy that can lead the world out of depression, this year, or perhaps next year. If the Clinton package fails, the world economy will suffer.

Russia's violent export

Anne McElvoy on a new gangster threat to Britain

It reads like the outline for a more than usually far-fetched Sixties thriller starring Michael Caine. Two envoys of an obscure autonomy-seeking republic arrive in London to manufacture passports, stamps and currency for an emerging oil-rich state smaller than Wales, at violent loggerheads with its powerful neighbour. They buy a flat in Marylebone with £1 million outright, hire a Jaguar and go on a furniture-buying spree so extravagant that it takes Harrods three days to deliver the order. One ends up shot in his king-size bed, the other is found trussed up in a carpet in a garage in Harrow.

Bizarre as the lifestyle and demise of the two Chechen brothers may seem to us, the tale is being greeted with indifference by most Russians who would be pretty surprised if a day went by without a gory mafia murder.

The violent activities of the various Chechen, Georgian, Azerbaijani and Russian gangs are now so common in Moscow and other cities across the former Soviet Union that they go virtually unnoticed. When the interior ministry recently diverted its crack troops in a brave but probably ineffectual attempt to flush a well-known posse of arms and drugs dealers out of a central Moscow restaurant, those customers not pinned to the floor with a revolver in the back just carried on dancing.

Gangsterism is so rife that it is discrediting the transition to market capitalism, and has almost completely undermined the notion that wealth can be acquired honestly. And the wonder is not that mafia battles which have flourished on the wasteland of the former Soviet Union have reached Britain, but that they have taken so long to do so.

Bars, restaurants and market halls provide the weekly backdrops for knife-fights and shoot-outs between the gangs — their way of dividing the profits from prostitution, drug or commodity rackets. The police fish bodies of unfortunate *biznizmen* out of the river with monotonous regularity.

So while the rouble slithers dizzily towards hyperinflation, and the country which once boasted it could produce "rockets like sausages" begs for aid from the West and ponders what to do with vast combines producing goods that even China won't buy, there is one outstanding Russian export: the mafia.

The rise of gangsterism has accompanied the Soviet Union's decline. In the early 1970s, Leonid Brezhnev oversaw the execution of a party secretary in Odessa for black-marketeering, so serious was this most "anti-socialist" of crimes considered. By the end of his years, the underground economy accounted for as much as 50 per cent of all goods consumed in the country.

The Godfather was the Communist party itself. The criminals were directors of state enterprises and collective farms and party functionaries. One of Mikhail Gorbachev's myriad unfulfilled promises was a clampdown on corruption. In fact his liberalisation of travel only served to increase the mafia's influence, turning domestic scams into international rackets.

A typical graduate of this transition is Marat Balagula, who holds the traditional title of Chief Thief-in-Law in New York's *Organizatsiya*. His career began in Odessa as a go-between for party functionaries who wanted to sell off national assets to the West and pocket the profit. He moved to New York in the mid-Eighties to preside over the bloody ascent to criminal prominence of the Brighton Beach mobs. Last November he was convicted of evading tax on the sale of four million gallons of petrol, but is suspected of having been behind America's biggest ever jewellery heist and insurance fraud, which netted well over $1 billion.

After the Berlin Wall came down, the Russians moved into West Berlin, heading straight for the most expensive street in the city, the Fasanenstrasse, which is traditionally inhabited by auction houses and jewellers. Their shoot-outs take place in the street's luxury restaurants (to the dismay of Christie's which has recently moved in). They also dominate smuggling across eastern Europe.

The advent of Boris Yeltsin's unfettered free market and the sudden dismemberment of the Soviet Union have brought a boom for the Russian criminal tendency at home and abroad. The collapse of the country has put vast resources at stake just when Europe's border controls have been largely removed. Unemployed former KGB agents and a demoralised and venal military are on hand to provide further help. The interior ministry said this week that the number of organised criminal bands had risen from 91 to 174 in the last year and operate in 29 foreign countries as well as the former Soviet Union.

Never mind the ill-trained, corrupt and incompetent Russian police force. Western police and security teams are finding themselves trounced by the gangs. The New York Russian mafia is now thought to have 300 major operators but there is still no FBI unit devoted to it, a result of studied unwillingness even among hardened gang-busters to take on the newcomers.

Forget the KGB. Russia's mafia is the most terrifying legacy of organised violence, and from it has grown a Hobbesian culture of utter lawlessness. It is vast, growing and there is no longer an iron curtain to hold it back.

Commons tealeaf

THE government is clearly determined to get tough on crime. No sooner has Kenneth Clarke outlined his plan to lock up persistent juvenile offenders than new measures are introduced to curb another deep-rooted malaise: the disappearance of crockery from the House of Commons.

With coffee cups from the Commons now disappearing faster than hatchbacks from unlit side streets, the authorities have decided that it is time to act. Some 200 mugs have disappeared from the MPs tearoom and the strangers' cafeteria since the start of the year.

But while a short, sharp shock beckons for young offenders, a softly-softly approach is being adopted for the far-from-juvenile culprits in the Commons. An amnesty has been declared, under which crockery and cutlery can be returned to its intended home with no questions asked.

Matthew Johnson, the assistant catering manager, has put up notices in the worst affected places. And he has even gone to the length of putting a notice in *The House Magazine* to proclaim the details of the week-long amnesty.

"Tempers are rising. Counter staff are running out of excuses for the shortage when everyone knows the real reason," he writes.

Colin Shepherd, Tory MP for Hereford, who chairs the catering committee, says the problem is not as bad as it used to be. "Somewhere there is a mystery mug mountain."

He blames absentmindedness and not theft for most of the losses. "But some of our stuff did turn up in a catalogue in the United States, being advertised as a teaset that might have been used by Sir Winston Churchill!"



DIARY

Loadsaroubles

ONE of the less grisly aspects of the murder of the two Russian brothers in London is the matter of their recent acquisition of a £1 million penthouse flat. So might Russian money begin the long-awaited resurrection of the capital's property market?

Hamptons' Kensington office recently sold three flats "for under £500,000" to Russians, and it expects Russian buyers to "increase over the next few years". Top of Russian shopping lists, however, is not Marylebone or Kensington, but Hampstead. Neville Casingena of the Hampstead estate agent Goldschmidt & Howland says he has noticed the rise of the Russian buyer.

Most of them, he says, are entrepreneurs: "There was a guy who two years ago bought a flat for £200,000. In December he was back again, buying a house worth £1.1 million." Another buyer, an Armenian, has "serious money". He has just bought "two flats and a site facing Hampstead Heath, on which he is going to build a house with a swimming-pool". All of them, he says, are cash buyers. "Mortgages do not come into it."

● *Is there to be a new anchorman for* On the Record? *By July, Jonathan Dimbleby will have served five years, and, according to editor David Jordan, may then "feel he has done his stint". So is it coincidence that Jordan was spotted last week lunching with Bryan Gould? Might Gould be the next Brian Walden? Jordan says not. "I did not ask him. It is quite normal for me to have lunch with politicians. The next day, for example, I had lunch with John Prescott . . ." Now that would be good television.*

Entirely coincidental

THE BBC has been upsetting people. Specifically, Lynn Barber and John Mortimer. Both have refused to take part in an *Arena* programme to be shown later this month. The show, "Only the Names Have Been Changed", looks at novelists' work and asks whether the characters are based on real people or are fiction.

Barber was invited to discuss Melvyn Bragg's book *Crystal Rooms*, which features a character called Martha Potter, a "successful metropolitan journalist in her forties, aching for fame and badly hung over". When the book was published last year, it was alleged that Potter was a caricature of Barber. Despite Bragg's denials at the time, the thought of appearing alongside him is evidently still too much for Barber, who wrote to the producer, Mary Dickinson, saying: "As there is no way I could talk about Melvyn Bragg's writing without being libellous, I must decline to take part."

Mortimer reacted in a similar way when he heard that his first wife Penelope, whom he divorced in 1972, is to discuss her 1962 novel *The Pumpkin Eater*. Dickinson says "Penelope Mortimer insists it is not actually about her marriage, but John Mortimer does not want to discuss it — and it's not hard to see why . . ."

Tired of taffeta

THERE wasn't a red taffeta dress in sight. Which was just as well. Anthony Summers, who spent five years researching *Official and Confidential: The Secret Life of J. Edgar Hoover*, is tiring of jokes about the book's claim that the notorious head of the FBI was a homosexual who got his kicks out of wearing women's clothes and answered to the name Mary.

At the launch party on Tuesday night at L'Escargot, the author admitted he was naive not to have expected such media interest.

"But I am a little weary of being asked to pose for photographs in a dress," he says. "Only the other week in America I was asked to pose, seated at a piano, in a red taffeta dress with a bulldog by my side. I refused. They suggested putting a dress on the dog instead. I declined that as well. In the end I agreed to pose with the bulldog. But I might regret it. The dog stayed behind for more photographs and I am sure the magazine article will appear with the dog in the frock with me smiling by his side."

● *The actress Joyce Carey, who died earlier this week, was often mistaken for someone else — even by her fans. Throughout her long career she would be met at the stage door by her army of admirers, many of them clutching copies of* The Horse's Mouth *for her to sign. The problem?* The Horse's Mouth *was written by the Irishman Joyce Cary.*

POWER PLAY IN PEKING

There must be no return to secret deals on Hong Kong

The Chinese government is expected to announce the resumption of dialogue between Britain and China on Hong Kong tomorrow. After months of Chinese obstruction, such a development might appear to be promising: but not if China uses the talks to bypass Hong Kong's governor, Chris Patten, and cut Hong Kong's legislature out of vital decisions on the way it is governed. Mr Patten was *not* a party to the intensive soundings of recent weeks in Peking, nor will he participate in the formal talks. Hong Kong's people must not be presented, as seems altogether too probable, with yet another Sino-British *fait accompli*.

Mr Patten's proposals last October for constitutional reform marked a watershed. Quite as important as their content was the central proposition that Hong Kong's own people, through its legislature, should have the final say. Mr Patten has repeatedly said that China was welcome to put forward ideas in response — but that these must be for a fair and open electoral system and acceptable to Hong Kong. Peking, outraged not just by the democratising thrust of his plans but by the fact that he had not first sought China's imprimatur, retorted that he must withdraw his proposals before any talks could take place.

For five months China has conducted a vicious campaign aimed at undermining the governor's authority and intimidating supporters of democratic reform in Hong Kong. China may have changed tactics; but there is no evidence that its hostility to democracy in Hong Kong has abated. Only last month, the Chinese press printed remarks attributed to China's paramount leader, Deng Xiaoping, accusing Britain of an anti-Chinese conspiracy and saying that Mr Patten should return to London.

The U-turns in domestic policy taken by John Major's government have not gone unremarked in Peking. China's aim in resuming talks is almost certainly to prompt an equally dramatic reversion to Britain's policy before Mr Patten's arrival, of subjecting decisions on Hong Kong to China's prior approval. Senior Chinese officials have confirmed that they will demand guarantees from Britain to implement any deal reached on the arrangements for elections in Hong Kong in 1995.

For Britain to give way would be morally and legally disgraceful. Hong Kong's Legislative Council (LegCo) has the constitutional right and duty to enact laws. Only this week, Douglas Hurd confirmed that Britain would "stand by LegCo's decision" on democracy. The legislation to implement the Patten proposals was due to come before LegCo by the end of last month. Gazetting was deferred while the British ambassador, Sir Robin McLaren — known to be alarmed by Mr Patten's forthright and popular style of governing — conducted talks about talks.

The legislation should be published now; and China must on no account be allowed to use talks to prevent the debate in LegCo from starting. If democratic reforms are to be in place in time for the scheduled elections, LegCo must complete what is bound to be a lengthy debate before the end of its current session in July. That timetable must be adhered to. There must be no repeat of the saga over Hong Kong's new airport, which China has deliberately dragged out in order to demonstrate that it, not Britain or the Hong Kong government, holds the whip hand even before taking over in 1997.

Despite the propaganda barrage from Peking, two out of three Hong Kong people still support the Patten proposals. They understand that the argument is not about the fine print of legislation, but about whether China is prepared to honour its legally binding commitment that Hong Kong will have "a high degree of autonomy" after 1997. Mr Patten has championed this cardinal principle. The British government must stand by him, and Hong Kong.

THE MOOD IN HARROGATE

Tories should attack the government not the party

Conservative activists gathering tonight for their annual Central Council meeting are not happy. Their dwindling local membership is worried about unemployment, bankruptcy and the housing market. Their political masters seem determined to impale themselves upon the spike of Maastricht. Many local associations are themselves almost bankrupt, and Conservative Central Office appears as a perfect microcosm of corporate Britain, a body forced to undergo drastic surgery to pay off its debts.

Whatever John Major's wishes, this meeting in Harrogate is unlikely to provide the break in the clouds he needs to offset the gloom that is so prevalent in the rest of the country. The conference will open on an acrimonious note with a session, closed to the media, involving discussion of party organisation. Many highly critical motions have been submitted, and 50 Conservative associations have backed a censure motion attacking the way Central Office is run and calling for a bigger role for activists.

John Major should not, however, worry too much about the bleats from Harrogate. Many of the complaints about accountability are a year out of date. Central Office, recently restructured, now *has* a director-general and a board of directors. Accounts will be published annually. True, most of the directors will not be elected, but the reforms are at least moving what has traditionally been a highly secretive organisation in the direction of greater openness, efficiency and accountability.

Central Office is usually unpopular with constituency associations and Downing Street, especially during and after election campaigns. Last April, the complaints reached a level of rancour not seen since the February 1974 general election. The Tories were thought to have won the election despite, rather than because of, the campaign run by Central Office. Chief among the critics were two men accompanying Mr Major around the country: Sir Norman Fowler and Tim Collins.

The former is now party chairman and the latter, communications director. The reform of Central Office, which involved the loss of 62 jobs, has shown a ruthlessness and radicalism lacking from Mr Major's wider agenda. Painful as the changes may have been, they had to be made. The party's overdraft is £19 million, and its future financing is less certain than before.

All political parties are in financial difficulty, but the Tories' funding is turning out to be even less secure than that of Labour. Trade union financing is more reliable than money from companies which varies hugely from year to year, depending both on the whim of the chairman and the state of the economy. The recession has not just hit profitability; it has also made company chairmen angry with the Tory party. As Labour becomes more enamoured with capitalism, the Conservatives find it more difficult to scare industrialists with the dire consequences to their companies that would ensue were Labour to win power. Political convergence makes raising money harder.

So local activists should be more sympathetic to the people in Smith Square. If they are going to criticise their leaders, they should do so where it can make a difference — over the governance of Britain.

CORRIDOR OF OPPORTUNITY

Advance Poland's entry into the European Community

Poland yesterday challenged Britain to think hard about its relationship to Central Europe. Mrs Hanna Suchocka, the Polish prime minister, wants British help in securing early entry to the EC. She deserves such support, and Britain, in giving it, should focus more deliberately on its goals in the east of the continent.

The Poles have been given the vaguest of promises by the European Community. The present assumption is that when the current ten-year Association Agreements run out in the year 2002, full membership of the European Community can be considered. That is an unreasonably long period to spend in such a cold waiting room.

The Polish economy, as Mrs Suchocka told Mr Major yesterday, has made important strides. It is the only one of the post-Communist states with a reasonable expectation of strong growth this year. More than 50 per cent of output now comes from the private sector, which employs 56 per cent of the labour force. There are tenacious problems in restructuring state industry, but Mrs Suchocka's government has stood firm on market reform. A tight budget has been passed and is expected to win the approval of the International Monetary Fund.

Some of these gains will be threatened if the European Community fails quickly to bring Central Europe into the fold. The post-Communist world is running on two speeds. The rapid progress recorded in Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic contrasts with the turmoil in the Balkans and the hyper-inflation in Russia. Unless Central Europe is economically fortified, chaos could spread westwards. One possibility is that a quarter of a million or more refugees might move to the relatively prosperous Poland and swamp the overstrained social welfare system. If Russia sneezes — if President Boris Yeltsin is dislodged — Central Europe will catch more than a cold.

The first priority is to set out a sensible and specific timetable for Central European accession to the Community. There is no compelling reason why entry negotiations should not begin in 1996. Moreover, the European Community Association Agreements, which are at present stifling Central European attempts to build up modest new markets, should be revised. Poland's economic advances can be rewarded by Britain's upgrading its credit rating.

The new democracies of the East need a champion in the West. France is enmeshed in elections. Already its strong protectionist lobbies have detracted from its historical sympathies for the region. Germany's struggle to come to grips with Eastern refugees is blighting its relationship with its Central European neighbours. Britain should seize the moment to develop a policy towards the post-Communist states that clearly differentiates between Central Europe and the rest of the East. There can be no stronger incentive for reformist forces in Russia than the quick and resolute admission of Poland and the other Central European states to the Community.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Taxable pay for public servants

From the Director of the Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation

Sir, Graham Searjeant is right ("Birt, the BBC and the taxman", March 2) in identifying uncompetitive pay as one of the roots of the difficulties facing the board of governors of the BBC and other public-sector employers in making senior appointments, although the new director-general's terms do not actually seem ungenerous by any standards.

What is inexcusable is the fact that the board of governors, the guardians of one of our most important public-sector institutions, should have failed to have realised the impact of such arrangements on both their own staff and, equally importantly, confidence in the public sector in general.

At a time of increased private-sector involvement in public services, whether through privatisation or contracting-out, it is doubly important that we cling to the principle that working for the public sector involves a very special set of values. It is these values which the BBC governors have either shown themselves to be ignorant of, or have simply disregarded.

I think it would be immensely reassuring if the Cabinet Secretary could be instructed to trawl all government departments and agencies and to make the results public, revealing any arrangements for public officials within their direct or indirect control that depart from the normal PAYE terms which other civil and public servants have to observe.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN FARRINGTON,
Director,
Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation,
41 Doughty Street, WC1.
March 2.

From Mr Martin Seymour-Smith

Sir, Surely it is intolerable that John Birt's, or anyone else's, confidential tax affairs should be made public in order to satisfy the envy and spite of the sensationalist press and a few self-righteous others (reports, March 1, 2). The Inland Revenue has indeed the right to extort as much as it can from everyone; but it so excels at its job, and sometimes uses such savage methods of interrogation, that the rest of us have not just the right, but the duty, to make the best possible arrangements to protect ourselves.

Those who have forced John Birt into new arrangements may well have cause to regret it: even if the Revenue were an institution much loved and admired for its observation of gentleness, justice and kindness towards individuals, and for its charming upper echelons, it would still need constant vigilance.

The way things are going, it seems likely that it will gain what it has always wanted: our whole income will be paid direct to it, and every Christmas it may allow us to have a bit back, as a "bonus", so that we can pay all the other bills and interest.

Yours truly,
MARTIN SEYMOUR-SMITH,
36 Holliers Hill,
Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex.

Hospital values

From the Head Master of Westminster School

Sir, As head of an institution that came top of a national league table (details, August 29, 1992), I write to express disquiet at your report (February 24) of health department plans to set up a hospitals league table.

The government's obsession with such tables seems to ignore the depressing and divisive effect which they may have in contexts where admirable work is being undertaken in the most daunting of conditions. Hospitals (and patients) have more than enough problems on their hands without being ranked by "indicators" of the kind proposed.

As with education, so with medical care: surely this "citizen's government" should be more concerned to listen and encourage than to threaten and cajole. Perhaps ministers should undergo a "citizen's test" of humility, as well as regular and public appraisal; but then, of course, they might find it hard to do their jobs.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SUMMERSCALE,
Head Master, Westminster School,
17 Dean's Yard, SW1.

From Mr G. C. Reade

Sir, I have just undergone open-heart surgery and read your report of the proposed hospitals league table. I did not know whether to laugh or cry.

How do you quantify the skill of the surgeon who performs a multiple by-pass operation? What marks do you allow the intensive-care unit? How many "Brownie points" do you give to the doctors, nurses, tea ladies and all who care for you in the recovery ward? What of the doctors who work an 80-hour week and the nurses who work 12-hour shifts? For a fraction of the cost of administering the league table an extra cardiac unit at Guy's would slash the queue of patients awaiting urgent heart treatment. May I suggest that Mrs Bottomley, the health secretary, forgets her league table and applies a little common sense.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. READE,
Dorcas Ward, Guy's Hospital,
St Thomas Street, SE1.

The rights and wrongs of Habgood's views on crime

From Mr George Chowdharay-Best

Sir, The Archbishop of York's letter (March 2) is remarkable for its failure to make a single positive statement as to the causes of crime. He only says that certain things *may* contribute; he does not say that they *do*.

May I suggest that before the 1960s, which Dr Habgood rightly regards as a watershed, the Church of England did have definite views on these issues which it was not afraid to express, and that this expression played a part in securing the "peace and concord" which that church has traditionally set before us as one of its aims.

Dr Habgood writes of the need for a "reflective sharing of insights" but fails to tell us what his own insights are. I can assure him that if he were not so fond of qualifying his statements in the pseudo-academic manner favoured by so many of the higher clergy, he would have much less to complain about in the way of misrepresentation.

The press, like most of us, are only human, and they need something definite and positive to latch on to. If the archbishop cannot provide this, they will inevitably distort his statements, or not report him at all.

Yours faithfully,
G. CHOWDHARAY-BEST,
27 Walpole Street, SW3.
March 2.

From Lord Young of Graffham

Sir, The Archbishop of York has drawn attention to the causes of youth delinquency but perhaps not as he intended. Sixty years ago, with levels of unemployment almost unimaginable by today's standards, with little or no social security, crimes of violence were rare. Ten years ago, when I was chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, we were wrestling with unemployment higher than today, with youth unemployment at crisis levels. Young people were continually told that they were being condemned to a lifetime of unemployment. Yet crime among the young was far less than today.

No, if we are to look at the causes of youth crime we should look first at the breakdown of the family unit. It is parents who must take a measure of responsibility for their young. As the liberal revolution of the 1960s sowed, so we now reap. It is no coincidence that the vast increase in single-parent families has brought with it youth delinquency.

Let our leaders, both lay and spiritual, concentrate on the real cause of this increase. If not, what sort of parents will this generation make in their turn?

Yours faithfully,
YOUNG,
House of Lords.
March 2.

From Dr M. S. Lawrence

Sir, I am 50 — much the same age as the politicians guiding this country. We were born in wartime and enjoyed times which grew more prosperous and fulfilling over the years, cared for by a previous generation which fought for our freedom and then put its children first with child allowances, ever-increasing educational opportunity and adequate grants.

Until the 1970s. Then we began to take over. With a falling birth rate all we had to do to help our children was to keep spending level in absolute terms so that the spending per child would go up — class sizes would have dropped by a third.

What did we do? We cut our own taxes and cut our spending on the young. Now our children have bigger classes, poor teacher morale, little extra-curricular activity, scanty training and few job prospects — no wonder they turn to crime. And our politicians' reaction? Lock them up.

Dr Habgood is right. The politicians are guilty for creating this society, and we are guilty for putting them in power.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN LAWRENCE,
Manorfield,
Church Enstone, Oxford.

From the Reverend Colin Alsbury

Sir, Morality and spirituality are as concerned with social and economic matters as they are with individual actions and responsibility. It is for that reason that for many years churches have committed resources to sector ministries such as my own, as well as maintaining the core of parochial or congregation-based ministry.

If crime rates are obscenely high amongst young people who have been nurtured by parents, schools, local community and, in a minority of cases, religious bodies, for most, if not all, of that time under a Conservative government, then it is eminently reasonable to question the value system, if any, that has been intended, and perceived, as guiding them.

Those who cannot acknowledge that "there but for the grace of God go I", or understand and know in community the measure and means of that grace, and in compassion seek to communicate that grace to others, fall short of the claims of the Gospel.

It is on such a basis that the Archbishop of York, just as he would question any individual, is right to question the government's sense of judgment, sense of community and sense of compassion.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN ALSBURY,
South Cheshire Industrial Mission,
Crewe Green Vicarage,
Narrow Lane, Crewe Green,
Crewe, Cheshire.

From Mr Michael Ivens

Sir, The Archbishop of York states in his letter that religious commentators have a right and a duty to comment on "such sensitive topics as the way in which broad political policies may shape a society's self-understanding".

Will he reflect publicly — albeit sensitively — on the impact of socialist policies in local government in such areas as Merseyside and Lambeth?

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL IVENS,
40 Doughty Street, WC1.
March 2.

From Dr Shelagh Lucas

Sir, The perennial problem of how to cope with young males (Philip Howard's article, February 25) was certainly recognised by Shakespeare's shepherd in *The Winter's Tale*, when he grumbled: "I would there were no age between sixteen and three-and-twenty, or that youth would sleep out the rest; for there is nothing in the between but getting wenches with child, wronging the ancientry, stealing, fighting."

Yours sincerely,
SHELAGH LUCAS,
18 Champneys Walk, Cambridge.
February 26.

Religion in schools

From Dr A. M. Calverd

Sir, Your editorial, "Time for pluralism" (February 22), offers an apparently reasonable response to an application from a London primary school to become a state-funded Muslim school. I fear that, like many reasonable arguments, it can only worsen matters. This is a rare and precious opportunity to alter radically the statutory position of religion in all state-funded schools.

At the very least, the pale Christian demagoguery of mainland state schools inculcates a reverence for dogma, mysticism and arbitrary authority. This contradicts efforts to imbue children with a respect for rational enquiry and accountable authority — the foundations of an industrial democracy.

En route to the worst, religious education encourages children to seek and emphasise differences between themselves that are not of their own choosing. The step to prejudice and hatred is a small one: why should it be greased at public expense? At its worst, the sectarian division of primary education in Northern Ireland tends to label innocent pupils for all time as supporters of what are perceived to be rival gangs of common criminals and parasites.

The education secretary should examine the Education Acts and ask precisely what good, and what evil, have come out of 50 years of statutory religious education. Are those nations that make it an offence to teach religion in state schools less enlightened than ours? Or better educated and more successful? The bold, correct and unchallengeable decision would be to ban religious practices from state-funded schools altogether.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN CALVERD,
35 Badgers,
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.
February 23.

From Mr John Hines

Sir, Your editorial on Muslim schools states the dangers involved but reaches the wrong conclusion.

Surely we should aim at schools in which children of all religions, and none, can meet and understand each other as members of one community, instead of eyeing each other from their own isolated bunkers!

The 1988 Education Act committed state schools to religious worship, mainly of a Christian kind. It is not surprising, therefore, if even moderate Muslims might want their own schools, but the real way forward is to take religious worship out of state schools.

Children would worship in their own homes and places of worship whilst schools could spend the time gained on teaching a moral viewpoint based on the human values which civilised people share, regardless of religion, the issue of children and crime being doubtless one of those addressed.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN HINES,
Flat 3, 20 Pevensey Road,
St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex.
February 22.

Leasehold reform

From Mr Owen Humphreys

Sir, Sir Oliver Chesterton's letter (February 15) is a reminder that it is not landlords who have the most to lose from leasehold reform — for they will be paid more than the market value of their reversionary interest — but their managing agents.

But I have yet to hear any of these professionals base their case on the evidence of the leading authority, Hague on *Leasehold Enfranchisement* (Sweet & Maxwell, 1988). Not surprisingly, for in the opinion of Judge Hague, QC, the leasehold system uniquely provides landlords with "a completely monopolistic and unassailable negotiating position" when tenants try to renew their lease. In his view,

this situation called for redress prior to 1967, and likewise calls for redress today as regards flats and other properties outside the 1967 Act, in order to put the parties into a more equal bargaining position. No solution other than enfranchisement, or the grant of a longer lease, appears practicable.

One of the advantages of leasehold enfranchisement, and the consequent resolution of conflicting interests, is that the burden of management will be much reduced.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN HUMPHREYS,
29 Northchurch Terrace, N1.
February 26.

From Mr Louis FitzGibbon

Sir, One of the largest projectiles in the landlords' arsenal with which they bombard the new leasehold legislation is the statement: "... legal contract freely entered into ..." This misses the mark because it is only after the contract to buy a long lease is signed that the managing agent is produced.

Wearing the mantle of the landlord's approval it is he, with his failure to repair, concocted fees and threats of lease forfeiture, who rapidly destroys the peaceful enjoyment promised in the lease.

The government is reported as having lost the confidence of some 80 per cent of voters (MORI poll details, February 26). If, in the face of this new assault, it backs away from this overdue reform (and, be it noted, promised in the election manifesto) the Conservative party can be certain of losing many thousands of votes more than the one so unchivalrously withdrawn by His Grace the Duke of Westminster (report, February 25).

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
LOUIS FitzGIBBON,
8 Portland Place, Brighton, Sussex.

Business letters, page 27

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Dangerous species

From Mr Michael Molyneux

Sir, Every first-year law student knows contracts of insurance are *uberrimae fidei* — of the utmost good faith. The good faith has to be shown by the insured, who must disclose to the insurance company any fact that "might influence the judgment of a prudent insurer in fixing the premium". Failure to disclose a material fact allows the insurers, perhaps many years later, to void the policy and refuse to pay on a claim.

Recent letters to you, Sir, have simply emphasised the unfairness of this rule (February 22, 27, March 2). How on earth can the ordinary citizen be expected to guess what arcane facts may influence an insurer, and not just any old insurer but a "prudent" one at that?

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MOLYNEUX,
66 Clarendon Drive, SW15.

Cricketing drama

From Mr Peter Fuller

Sir, May I offer suggestions to help William Rees-Mogg cast a Shakespearean play upon the return of our cricketers from India ("Great game or national farce?", February 25).

I would propose *Henry IV Part II* as a suitable drama. Prince Henry could be played by the dashing Ted Dexter, and his brother Prince John of Lancaster by Michael Atherton; the Archbishop of York by Paul Jarvis, with Richard Blakey a surprise choice as understudy.

Mike Gatting with just a little extra padding would make a marvellous Falstaff. The King's Supporters include Warwick (Dermot Reeve), Surrey (Alec Stewart) and Gower (not too difficult to cast). For the Rustics, Graham Gooch could be Shadow and John Emburey Feeble. Finally, if Equity would agree to work permits, R. D. Reporter and S. Venkataraghavan might fit the bill as Shallow and Silence, the Country Justices.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FULLER,
68 Beulah Road, E17.
February 26.

From His Honour Judge Paul Collins

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg should brush up his Shakespeare. The Bard had three Gowers, one of whom, the Chorus in *Pericles*, was of course a cricketer — "From ashes ancient Gower is come ..." — and pointed out that "crickets sing at the oven's mouth".

The rules were a bit odd. *Pericles* is a five-innings match with old Gower opening the batting throughout and taking the last wicket with a plug for the next match: "So, on your patience evermore attending,/New joy wait on you!" — Tyre 1, Antioch 0.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL COLLINS,
Wandsworth County Court, SW15.

Sports letters, page 40

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Ashmore (Extra Equerry) at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Sir Hugh Wontner (formerly Clerk of the Royal Kitchens) which was held in St Clement Danes Church, Strand, London WC2, today.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were represented by Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) at the Funeral of His Excellency Dr Luis Solé-Romeo (Ambassador of Uruguay to the Court of St James's) which was held in the Carmelite Church, Kensington Church Street, London W8, this afternoon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Prince Edward, Trustee, this morning attended The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Finance and Administration Committee Meeting, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1.

His Royal Highness, Chairman, the International Council of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, received Prince Guillaume of Luxembourg this afternoon at Buckingham Palace.

The Prince Edward, Patron, this evening attended a Concert given by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Festival Hall, London SE1.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

His Royal Highness was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer (Private Secretary) at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Sir Hugh Wontner (formerly Clerk of the Royal Kitchens) which was held in St Clement Danes Church, Strand, London WC2, today.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this morning visited the Royal Mail Sorting Office, Royal Mail Midlands Headquarters, Royal Mail Street, Birmingham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the West Midlands (the Earl of Aylesford).

Her Royal Highness afterwards opened the Ability Development Centre, Vincent Drive, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

The Princess Royal, President of Patrons, Crime Concern, this afternoon visited the Solihull Crime Reduction Programme, Keeper's Lodge, Chelmsley Road, Chelmsley Wood, Birmingham. Mrs William Nunneley was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, Member, the Lady Jockeys' Association of Great Britain, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence, RN, this evening attended a Fund Raising Evening at Wembley Greyhound Stadium, Wembley, Middlesex.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 3: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Transport, was present at a luncheon given by the Colonels Commandant at Buller Barracks, Aldershot, Hampshire.

Mrs Michael Harvey was in attendance.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke of Gloucester were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland at a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sir Hugh Wontner, formerly Clerk of the Royal Kitchens, which was held in St Clement Danes Church, London WC2, today.

Today's royal engagements

Prince Edward, as Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend a reception for the Young Presidents' Organisation at St James's Palace at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend a trustee meeting at 81 Newgate Street, EC1, at 11.00; and will attend the *Horse and Hound* annual dinner and ball at Grosvenor House at 8.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend a private view of "The Great Age of British Watercolours 1750-1880" at the Royal Academy at 7.00 in aid of Research into Ageing.

Princess Alexandra, president, will attend the Town and Country meeting of the Children's Country Holidays Fund at Westminster Cathedral Hall at 11.55.

Birthdays today

Professor Sir Alan Battersby, professor of organic chemistry, 68; Sir Arthur Bryan, Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, 70; Mr Kenny Dalglish, former football player and manager, 42; Mr Graham Dowling, cricketer, 56; Professor H.J. Eysenck, psychologist, 77; Mr Harvey Goldsmith, impresario, 47; Mr Bernard Haitink, conductor, 64; Mr John Hunt, former headmaster, Roedean School, 61; Lord Johnston of Rockport, 78; Mr Ralph Kirshbaum, cellist, 47; Mr Stuart Mawson, otolaryngologist, 75; Mr Patrick Moore, astronomer, 70; Mr Alan Sillitoe, writer, 65; Sir Keith Stuart, chairman, Associated British Ports Holdings, 53.

Leverhulme Memorial Lecture

Mr Neil MacGregor, Director of the National Gallery, yesterday delivered the Leverhulme Memorial Lecture entitled "The Purpose of Pictures" at the University of Liverpool. Mr MacGregor, the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool, and the Leverhulme Trustees attended a dinner held afterwards.

St Mary's School, Ascot

The Sixth Form Science Scholarship for 1993 has been awarded to Michaela Irwin, St Mary's School, Ascot. The 1993 St Mary's School Music Scholarship has been won by Marie-Anne Arthur of the Ursuline Convent School, Wimbledon.

Royal Warrant Holders Association

The following have been elected officers of the Royal Warrant Holders Association:

President, Mr Richard George; Vice-President, Mr Douglas Kinloch Anderson; Honorary Treasurer, Mr Sam H.G. Twining.

Appointments

David Alwyn Gore-Booth to be ambassador to Saudi Arabia in succession to Sir Alan Munro who will be retiring from the diplomatic service.

Mrs Richard Abel Smith to be a Deputy Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire.

Luncheons

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host at a luncheon held yesterday at 10 Downing Street in honour of the Prime Minister of Poland. The other guests were:

Dr Jan Krzysztof Bielecki, the Polish Ambassador, Mr Robert Mroziewicz, Mr Bogdan Trepinski, Mr Mariusz Handzlik, Mrs Gillian Shephard, MP, the Hon Douglas Hogg, MP, Mr Stephen Dorrell, MP, Earl Jellicoe, Mr Paul Channon, MP, Baroness Ryder of Warsaw, Baroness O'Cathain, Lady Panufnik, the Hon Rocco Forte, Sir Ralf Dahrendorf, Sir Martin Jacomb, Mr Ron Freeman, Mr George Robertson, MP, Mr Edward McMillan-Scott, MEP, Mr Rupert Pennant-Rea, Mr Richard Lambert, Professor Laurence Martin, Mr Robert Phillis, Mrs Halina Kent, Mr David Jampsen, Mr Neal Ascherson, Mr Michael Llewellyn Smith, Sir Rodric Braithwaite, Lord Poole and Mr Stephen Wall.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Mr Colin Shepherd, MP, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the UK branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and Mr Donald Anderson, MP, joint honorary treasurer, were hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at the House of Commons in honour of Commonwealth Parliamentarians attending the 1993 Parliamentary Seminar at Westminster.

The Continuing Professional Development Foundation
Mr Jonathan Harris, President of The Continuing Professional Development Foundation, was host at a Luncheon held yesterday at 6, Carlos Place. The guests included:

Baroness Hooper, Sir Brian Hill, Mr Robert Dean, Mr James Garrett, Mr John Plender, Mr Anthony Steen, MP, Mr David Walsh and Members of the Foundation's Council.

Dinner

Mr Hugh Dykes, MP
Mr Hugh Dykes, MP, held a dinner last night at the House of Commons in honour of Messrs Rogers & Wells. The guests were:

Mr Eric Bettelheim, Mr Raj Bagri, Mr Nick Durlacher, Mr Mark Fox-Andrews, Mr David King, Mr David Longridge, Mr Christopher Sharples, Sir Peter Tapsell, MP, and Mr Alan Whiting.

Service dinner

Yorkshire Universities Air Squadron
Squadron Leader A.P. Hawes presided at the annual dinner of the Yorkshire Universities Air Squadron held last night at RAF Finningley. Air Vice-Marshal A.J.C. Bagnall, Assistant Chief of the Air Staff, was the guest of honour and Professor D.J. Johns, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of Bradford University, was the chief academic guest. Air Vice-Marshal D. Cousins, Air Officer Commanding and Commandant RAF College Cranwell was among the guests.



Floral welcome: the Princess of Wales wears a garland presented during a visit to the foothills of the Himalayas on the first full day of her trip to Nepal yesterday. The princess is inspecting British-funded welfare projects. Nepal controversy, page 13

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.J. Angell and Miss J. Pickering
The engagement is announced between Robert John Angell, only son of Jack and the late Eileen Angell, of Selly Oak, Birmingham, and Jill Pickering, elder daughter of Fred and Dorothy Pickering, of Worsley, Manchester.

Mr J.P. Cameron and Miss M.F. Cox
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Dr and Mrs Bremner Cameron, of East Kennett Manor, Marlborough, Wiltshire, and Margaret, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Cox, of Sheepshaw Farm, Brightling, Sussex.

Dr B. Grimaldi and Miss A.M. Hayes
The engagement is announced between Barry, only son of the late Mr A. Grimaldi and of Mrs Dorothy Grimaldi, of Clapham, London, and Anne-Marie, eldest daughter of the late Major J.E.C. Hayes, MC, and of Mrs Moida Hayes, of "Downsleigh", Epsom.

Mr A.G. Hall and Miss E.C. Kerr
The engagement is announced between Alan Graham, second son of Mr and Mrs Graham Hall, of Durban, South Africa, and Elizabeth, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Duncan Kerr, of Marton, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

Mr P.J. Harvey and Miss S.J. Asquith
The engagement is announced between Paul James, son of Dr and Mrs Donald Harvey, of Broadstone, Dorset, and Susan Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Asquith, of Ludlow, Shropshire.

Mr M.W. Horton and Miss E.S. Harrap
The engagement is announced between Matthew William, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Horton, of Highgate, London, and Elizabeth Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Harrap, of Milton Street, East Sussex.

Mr C.D. Ross Stewart and Miss C.F.S. Tuck
The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mr and Mrs David Ross Stewart, of Edinburgh, and Caroline, second daughter of Colonel and Mrs Mitchell Tuck, of Aberdeenshire.

Mr T.J.B. Scott and Miss S.P.M. Broadbridge
The engagement is announced between Buchan, eldest son of Mr James A. Scott, CB, LVO, and Dr Scott, of Edinburgh, and Sally, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Anthony Broadbridge, of West Clandon, Surrey.

Mr W.D.J. Shurvinton and Miss L.M. Thorp
The engagement is announced between William, youngest son of Mr John Shurvinton, of Grimscote, Northampton, and Mrs Shirley Shurvinton, of Moulton, Northampton, and Laura, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Thorp, of Chiddingstone Hoath, Kent.

Marriage

Mr A. Altounyan and Ms A. Brooks
The marriage took place on February 25, at Berkeley, California, of Mr Andrew Altounyan, FRGS, to Ms Allison Brooks.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Antonio Vivaldi, composer, Venice, 1673; Charles Dibdin, composer and actor-manager, Southampton, 1745; Sir Henry Raeburn, portrait painter, Edinburgh, 1756; Giovanni Schiaparelli, astronomer, Savigliano, Italy, 1835; Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco, Prime Minister of Spain 1973, Santona, Spain, 1903; Jim Clark, world champion racing driver, Berwickshire, 1936.

DEATHS: Saladin, Sultan of Egypt 1175-73, Damascus, 1193; Bernard Gilpin "Apostle of the North", Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, 1583; Jean François Champollion, Egyptologist, Paris, 1832; Sir Charles Sherrington, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1932, Eastbourne, 1952; William Carlos Williams, physician and poet, Rutherford, New Jersey, 1963.

King Henry VI was deposed by Edward Duke of York (King Edward IV), 1461, and restored October, 1470.

The first meeting of Congress was held in New York, 1789.

The RNLI was founded, 1824.

The Forth Bridge was opened, 1890.

The first North Sea gas was piped ashore off the Durham coast, 1967.

Memorial services

Sir Hugh Wontner
The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Ashmore at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Hugh Wontner held yesterday at St Clement Danes, The Strand. Prince Edward was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer and the Duke of Gloucester by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland.

The Rev A.T.R. Goode officiated, assisted by the Rev John Robson, Chaplain of the Royal Victorian Order. The Queen's Chapel of The Savoy. Commander and Alderman Sir Robin Gillett read the lesson, the Earl of Lichfield read "The Ship" by Bishop Brent and Mr Giles Wontner, son, read an extract from a letter by Charles Lamb to a friend. The Right Rev Dr David Say, Honorary Chaplain to The Pilgrims, gave an address. Miss Jill Washington, soprano, Miss Gillian Knight, contralto, Mr John Ayldon, bass, and Mr Geoffrey Shovelton, tenor, with a chorus of former members of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company sang from *Ruddigore* by Gilbert and Sullivan. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London, accompanied by Mr Sheriff and Mrs Roger Cork, and Crown Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia attended. The Earl Marshal was represented by Dr Conrad Swan, Garter Principal King of Arms.

Among others present were:

Lady Wontner (widow), Mr Julian Wontner (son), Mrs Jenifer Emery (daughter), Mrs Giles Wontner (daughter-in-law), Mr Tom Wontner, Miss Charlotte Wontner, Miss Vanessa Emery, Miss Samantha Emery and Mr Alistair Emery (grandchildren), Miss Helen Wontner (sister), Mr Nicholas Wontner, Mr Rupert Wontner, Mr Richard Irvin, Miss Joanna Irvin, Miss S Irvin, Mr Graham Wontner-Smith, Mr Clifton Wontner-Smith, Mr Anthony Wontner-Smith.

Mary Duchess of Roxburghe, the Dowager Countess of Cromer, Viscount and Viscountess Marchwood, Mrs David Say, Lord and Lady Roskill, Lord and Lady Erroll of Hale, Lord Murton of Lindisfarne, Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, Lord Shawcross (The Pilgrims), Lord and Lady Chalfont, Elizabeth Lady Maclean, Lady Wigoder, Lord Mowbray and Stourton, Sir George and the Hon Lady Waller, Sir Denys Buckley, Lady Elizabeth Shakerley, the Hon Diana Makgill, the Hon Lady Bowater, the Hon Anthony Edmondson, the Hon John and Mrs Sinclair, the Hon Mrs Williams, the Hon Sir Clive Bossom (also representing the Lord Prior of the Order of St John of Jerusalem), the Hon Rocco Forte.

Sir Anthony Tuke (chairman, Savoy Hotel) and Lady Tuke with Mr Giles Shepard (managing director) and Mrs Shepard, Mr Martin Radcliffe (director) and Mrs Radcliffe, Mr Rowland Leigh (director) and Mrs Leigh, Mr Stefano Sebastiani (director and general manager, The Berkeley), Mr Ronald F Jones (director and general manager, Claridge's), Mr Morton Neal (chairman, The Connaught) and Mrs Neal, Mr Brian Clivaz (general manager, Simpson's-in-the-Strand), Mr T Ashley and Mr K Ritchie (directors, The Lygon Arms), Mrs Julie Hughes (Forest Mere), Mr John Elliott (Savoy Education Trust), Mr Julian Courtenay (Savoy Theatre) and other past and present members of staff.

Sir Edward and Lady Howard, Sir Martyn and the Hon Lady Beckett, Commander and Alderman Sir Robin Gillett (representing Order of the British Empire) and Lady Gillett, Sir John and Lady Welch, Sir James Cayzer, Dame Jean Conan Doyle, Lady (Charles) Norton, Alderman Sir Christopher Collett with Mr John Talbot and Mrs Talbot; Alderman Sir Christopher Leaver, Lady Pullbrook, Sir Peter and Lady Miles, Lady MacPhail, Lady Ashmore, Lady Bland; Sir Reay and Lady Geddes, Lady (Peter) Saunders, Alderman Sir Greville and Lady Spratt, Sir Ralph and Lady Southward, Sir Michael Bishop, with Mr John McCracken, Alderman Sir Alan Traill, Sir William Whitfield.

Sir Roger de Grey, Sir Archibald and Lady Ross, Sir Peter Marshall, Lady Inglefield, Sir Martin Gilliat, Lady Part, Sir Seymour Egerton, Sir John and Lady Page, Sir Peter and Lady Green, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston, Sir David Floyd Ewin, Alderman Sir Peter and Lady Gadsden, Sir Alexander and Lady Durie, Sir Roy Strong, Sir Colin Cole, Sir Mark Waller, Sir George and Lady Christie, Sir John Lambert, Lady Gardner-Thorpe, Lady Aarvold, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller.

The Masters, Wardens and Members of the Court of the Drapers', Feltmakers', Clockmakers' and Glaziers' and Painters of Glass Companies; Mr Anthony Nelson, MP, Mr Jonathan Charkham, the Headmaster of Oundle School and Mrs McMurray, Wing Commander P R Saunders, with Mr A S Phillips, Canon John Halliburton.

Sir Desmond and Lady Heap regret that because of indisposition they were unable to attend the memorial service for Sir Hugh Wontner at St Clement Danes yesterday.

Baroness Airey of Abingdon
The Archbishop of Canterbury was represented by Dr Andrew Purkis, Secretary for Public Affairs at Lambeth Palace, at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Baroness Airey of Abingdon held yesterday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. The Lord Chancellor and Lady Mackay of Clashfern attended and the Prime Minister was represented by Mr Tony Newton, Lord President of the Council.

Canon Donald Gray officiated. Baroness Thatcher, OM, and Mr Peter Giffard, brother, read the lessons. The Hon Sir Adam Butler, Chairman of the Airey Neave Trust, read a sonnet by William Shakespeare and Lord Charteris of Amisfield gave an address. The Rev Robert Dampier was robed and in the Sanctuary.

The Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords and Lady Wakeham, Mr Michael Morris, a deputy speaker and Chairman of Ways and Means, and Mrs Morris, the Secretary of State for Education, the Attorney-General and Lady Lyell, and the Chairman of the Conservative Party attended. The Irish Ambassador was represented by Mr Joseph Hayes, Political Counsellor at the Irish Embassy. Among others present were:

The Hon Patrick and Mrs Neave and the Hon William and Mrs Neave (sons and daughters-in-law), Mr and the Hon Mrs Richard Webb (son-in-law and daughter), James Neave, Richard Neave and Miss Kate Webb (grandchildren), Mr and Mrs David Cross (brother-in-law and sister), Mr and Mrs D S Neave (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mrs Peter Giffard and Mrs E N Sheppard (sisters-in-law), Mr and Mrs George Campbell-Johnston, Miss Juliet Cross, Mr Christopher Cross, the Hon Hugh and Mrs Fairfax, Mr John Giffard, Sir David and Lady Hirst, Mrs Dorothy Middleton, Mr and Mrs James Miller, Mr and Mrs Kenelm Neave, Mr and Mrs Lionel Neave, Mr and Mrs Digby Neave, Mr and Mrs R M S Neave, Miss Philippa Neave, Mr Robert Parsons, Miss Sarah Sheppard, Sophia Morris-Sheppard, Mrs Michael Webb, Mrs Trixie Stock, Miss Virginia Webb, Mrs Sonia Wentworth-Stanley.

The Earl and Countess of Bessborough, the Earl of Cork and Orrery, Countess Ferrers, the Earl of Halsbury, the Earl of Lindsay and Abingdon, the Earl of Shrewsbury, Viscount Leverhulme, KG, Viscount Long, Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Viscount Whitelaw, KT, CH, and Viscountess Whitelaw, Lord and Lady Amherst of Hackney, Lord Ampthill, Lord and Lady Ashbourne, Lord and Lady Boardman, Lord and Lady Boyd-Carpenter, Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, and Lady Campbell, Baroness Carnegy of Lour, Lord and Lady Clark of Kempston, Lord and Lady Colnbrook, Lord Cranborne, Lord De Freyne, Baroness Elles.

Lord Elliott of Morpeth, Lord Elton, Lord and Lady Fanshawe of Richmond, Lord and Lady Fraser of Kilmorack, Lord Gibson, Lord Hesketh, Baroness Hooper, Lord and Lady Killearn, Baroness Macleod of Borve, Lord Margadale, Lord Mason of Barnsley, Lord Newborough (vice-president and chairman, Colditz Association) with Major-General W B Broomhall (president) and other members of the association; Lord and Lady Parkinson, Lord Peyton of Yeovil, Baroness Platt of Writtle, Lord Plummer of St Marylebone, Lord Pym, Lord Renton, QC, Baroness Ryder of Warsaw, Lady Sandford, Lord Sandys, Baroness Seear, Lord Sodart of Leston, Lord Strabolgi, Baroness Strange, Lord and Lady Swansea, Lord Thorneycroft, CH, and Lady Thorneycroft, Baroness Trumpington, Lord Weatherill, Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, Baroness Young.

Mr John Biffen, MP, the Hon Robert Boscawen, Sir Edward and Lady du Cann, Mr James Molyneaux, MP, the Hon Lady Butler, Mrs Richard Ryder, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Sir William and Lady McAlpine, Sir Harold and the Hon Lady Hood, Sir Denis Thatcher, Lady Biggs-Davison, Sir Paul and Lady Bryan, Sir Mathew Farrer, Lady French, Sir Philip Goodhart, Dame Jane Gow, Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges, Sir Nigel Mobbs, Sir Michael Neubert, MP, Dame Shirley Oxenbury, Sir David and Lady Price.

Professor Sir William Mansfield Cooper
A memorial service for Professor Sir William Mansfield Cooper was held yesterday at St Ann's, Manchester. Canon Michael Arundel officiated. Professor Martin Harris, Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University, and Dr Vincent Knowles read the lessons. Professor Peter Bromley gave an address.

Memorial meeting

Mr Albert Hourani
A memorial meeting to remember the life and work of Albert Hourani (former Fellow) of St Antony's College, Oxford, will be held on Saturday, March 13, at 5pm in the Hall of the College.

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I have set the Lord before me at all times: with Him at my right hand I cannot be shaken.
Psalm 16:8

BIRTHS

BLUEMLI - On March 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Janet (née Henze) and Urs Daniel, a son, Tristan Conradin Remigius, a brother for Seraina.

BRITT - On 3rd March at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Margaret and Stephen, a daughter, Sarah Florence, a first granddaughter for Moira, John, Loris and Kevin, all in Australia.

BUNDGAARD-BOAS - On 11th January 1993, to Alison and Morten, a son, Tobias Wolff.

DALGETY - On 27th February at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, to Francesca (née Harper) and Henry, a son, Benjamin Henry Ardo.

EL-HAGE - On March 2nd at the Wellington Hospital, to Marsha and Walid, a boy, Taylor Selim, at 8.34 am, weight 8lbs 11oz.

GIBSON - On March 2nd 1993, to Rachel (née Lees) and Paul, a son, Timothy James Alistair, a brother for Robert and Hannah.

GILMORE - On March 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Jane (née Gant) and Jerry, a daughter, Octavia Phoebe Hannah, a sister for Georgia.

HEREN - On 2nd February, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Fiona (née Cadwallader) and Patrick, a son, Christopher Louis Blaise, a brother for Bede.

HOLDEN - On March 2nd, to Katherine (née Mathias) and Edward, a son, Henry Richard George, a brother for William and Katie.

JEPHSON - On 2nd March, to Jan and Patrick, a daughter, Amelia Elizabeth Louise.

KERR - On February 19th, to Deborah and Simon, a son, Robert David.

McKENZIE-SMITH - On February 24th, to Helen (née Johnson) and Andrew, a daughter, Poppy Ruth Dorothy.

MILNE - On 16th February, to Hilary (née Doughty) and John, a son, Angus Neil, a brother for Douglas.

NORMAN - On March 1st, to Caroline (née Dobson) and Jamie, a daughter, Alice Constance Bethune.

POTTS - On February 27th, to Jenny (née Shelley) and Michael, a son, Duncan Oliver, a brother to Alistair.

ROTHMAN - On February 28th 1993, to Lucy (née Middlemas) and James, a daughter, Georgia.

TAUBE - On February 18th, at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Clare (née Allen) and David, a daughter, Catharine Anne Hilary.

THOMPSON - On February 28th, to Sally (née Wilson) and Jonathan, a daughter, Abigail Mary.

WARDELL - On February 27th 1993, to Nichola and Antony, a son, Thomas William.

DEATHS

ANDREWS - Hilda, of Handsworth Wood, died peacefully on March 3rd 1993 aged 93 years. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Handsworth, on Monday 8th March at 2.30 pm and afterwards at The Birmingham Crematorium, Walsall Road, Perry Barr. Flowers may be sent c/o W.H. Scott & Son, 426 Rolfton Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Telephone: (021) 558-8801.

BORLASE - On March 2nd 1993, suddenly, Capt. Victor Alexander Borlase of Exford, aged 63 years. Funeral at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Wednesday March 10th at 2 pm. Flowers may be sent to, Messrs E. White & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, 138-139 East Reach, Taunton.

BRIAN - On 2nd March 1993, in Edinburgh, Gerald Frank Shewell, very much loved husband of Eileen and much loved father of Jennifer, Antony and Tim. Dear grandad of Rebecca, Emma, Iona, Kirsty and Alastair. Service at Colinton Parish Church on Friday 5th March at 12.30 pm. Cremation thereafter family only. Family flowers only please.

BROADBENT - On February 27th, suddenly on Hampstead Golf Course whilst playing his favourite game, Sir Ewen KCB., CMG. Dearly loved husband of Barbara, father of Christopher and father-in-law of Susan. He will be sadly missed by all associated with him. Private family funeral. Memorial Service St Clement Danes, 2nd April at 12 noon. No flowers please, donations if desired to Look Ahead Housing Association, 189A Old Brompton Road, London SW5.

BROCK - On March 1st 1993, peacefully at home, Ursula. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church, Tolleshunt Darcy, on Tuesday March 9th at 11.30 am followed by a cremation at Colchester.

DAVIES - On March 2nd peacefully, Gladys Clare (née Bruford) in her 96th year. Widow of Brigadier E.F. Davies D.S.O., M.C. Much loved mother of Jenefer and Robin and grandmother of Clara. Funeral at Exeter Crematorium on Monday March 8th at 3.15 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired for R.N.L.I. Eastbourne Branch c/o Crews & Son, Tower Street, Exmouth tel. (03595) 225622.

GARNER - Robert John peacefully at home on 1st March 1993 aged 86. Funeral Service at East Malling Parish Church on Friday 5th March 1993 at 2pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to East Malling Church or The British Migraine Association, c/o Viner & Sons Ltd., 54 High Street, West Malling, Maidstone, Kent, ME19 6LU.

GESSING-RICHARDSON - Stanley Frederick, on Sunday 28th February, peacefully in Ipswich Hospital after a short illness aged 81. Beloved husband of Joyce and father of Clive and Jane. Funeral Service at Hoxne Parish Church, Suffolk, Monday 8th March 12 noon. No flowers please, donations to Woodbridge Ward Training and Equipment Fund c/o The Furrocks, Red Lion Close, Hoxne, Suffolk IP21 5AJ, tel: (037975) 347.

GLOSSOP - On March 1st 1993, peacefully at his home, Rudolph (Silas), aged 91 years of Brane, Penzance. Dearly loved by all his family and friends. Private cremation. Thanksgiving Service will take place at St Buryan Parish Church, Friday April 16th at 3 pm.

GORT - Peter, suddenly on February 24th, aged 70, at The Princess Grace Hospital, London. Peter was in every way an exceptional man, who will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. Funeral Service to be held at Golders Green Crematorium, West Chapel, on Monday 29th March at 10.30 am. By request no flowers please. Any enquiries telephone Kenyons Funeral Directors (071) 229-3810.

GOWTHORPE - On March 3rd 1993, suddenly at home, Adsett Cottage, Beckford, Glos., John Patrick aged 72. Funeral Service at St Benets, Kemerton, Glos., on Monday 8th March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Bredon Hill Surgery Equipment Funds (plate in Church) or to Perks Brothers Ltd., Eckington, Pershore, Worcs., WR10 3AN.

HART - On March 2nd 1993, Pamela Elizabeth of Collingham, Newark. Formerly of Coddington. Beloved wife of Charles. Funeral on Tuesday March 9th at Coddington Church at 1.15 pm. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to The Chest, Heart and Stroke Association c/o David Tingle Funeral Directors, 18 Oaklands, Collingham, Newark, Notts.

HOPCRAFT - On February 27th, suddenly in Wellington Hospital, after a long and very active life, Edward (Ted), beloved husband of Barbara to whom he was a great companion. He will be greatly missed by all his family. Funeral at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Tuesday March 9th at 1.30pm. Family flowers only, donations for Guide Dogs for the Blind may be sent to: Messrs E. White & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, 138-139 East Reach, Taunton.

HUGHES - On March 1st, peacefully, Joan Marion at Hays House, Shaftesbury, widow of Major General B P. Hughes. Funeral at Todber on 10th March at 11 am. No flowers but donations if wished to St Andrew's Church, Todber c/o Richard T Adlem, Funeral Director, 6 Penny Handley, Salisbury, Wilts.

HUNT - John Henry James M.V.O. Peacefully in his sleep 2nd March 1993. Beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral private. Enquiries and floral tributes if desired welcomed to Co-operative Funeral Service, 32 Priorswood Road, Taunton, Somerset. tel: (0823) 272139.

JACKSON - On February 27th 1993, suddenly at home, Leonard Albert, past Secretary to The Foreign Banks Association. Husband of the late Elizabeth Groves, father of Elizabeth and Penny, grandfather to Simon, Miles, Timothy and Rachel. Enquiries to J. Kempster & Son (0892) 523131.

MADDEN - On March 2nd, peacefully at home, William Edmund, much loved husband, father and grandfather. Private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation.

MAURICE - On 1st March in hospital, Robert Giffard, of Nettleton. Devoted father to Camilla and Judy, grandfather to Sally and David. Funeral Service, Tuesday March 9th, 2.30 pm at Nettleton Parish Church, Burton, Wiltshire. No flowers please. Donations to Injured Jockeys Fund, c/o F.W. Jones and Son, 30 Market Place, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3HP.

POPE - On March 2nd, peacefully in Farnham Hospital, A. Lance Pope C.M.G., C.V.O., O.B.E., aged 80. Dearly loved husband of the late Ilse and adored father and grandfather. Funeral on Thursday March 11th at 3 pm at Aldershot Crematorium.

SKILBECK - Oswald M.A. died at home on 28th February 1993 aged 91. Cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium on Monday 8th March 1 pm. 'then to the elements Be free, and fare thou well'

STIBBS - Doris Eveline, peacefully on Tuesday 2nd March 1993, in Cambridge aged 81 years. Dear mother of Richard and Sally and grandmother of Robert, Jane, Nicholas and Andrew. Funeral Service at Cambridge City Crematorium, East Chapel, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, on Monday 8th March 1993 at 12.15 pm. Family flowers only, but if desired donations to Cancer Research.

WATTS - On March 2nd, in St Margaret's Hospital, Epping, Ronald George Watts, C.B.E., aged 78. Retired member of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service, husband of Margit. Funeral at St Martin's Church, Ongar, at 10.15am Tuesday March 9th. Private cremation. Enquiries to D.C. Poulton & Sons, Epping, tel: (0992) 572609.

WEST - Margaret L'Estrange, passed peacefully away on Friday February 26th 1993 at Beaumont Court, Launceston, Cornwall. Loving mother of Nicholas (deceased), Clifford and Elizabeth and fondest grandmother of Nicholas and Joanne.

WILSON-STEPHENS - On 3rd March 1993, Elizabeth Wilson-Stephens (Ann), wife of the late Major Tim Wilson-Stephens and mother of Michael and Christopher Ann, peacefully at home aged 81. Funeral service and cremation to take place at Eastbourne Crematorium at 11 am Friday 12th March. Family flowers only. Donations if you wish to the Dr. Jan de Winter Cancer Prevention Foundation, c/o Mrs Rosemary Rose, The Dower House, Upper Dicker, East Sussex BN27 3QR.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CARDEN - The Memorial Service for Lt. Col. Sir Henry Carden, Bart., O.B.E., will be held at St Martin's Church, East Woodhay, near Newbury, on Tuesday 9th March at 2.30 pm.

DAVIES - Winsome Margaret 1907-1992. A Memorial Service to honour her life will be held at St Bartholomew The Less Church, West Smithfield, London EC1, on 10th March 1993 at 2 pm.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BARNEY - Margaret. She was born 4th March 1895 and died 5th September 1986.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSLEY - Douglas. Donna Maria would dearly love to meet her father. 061 633 7680

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OBITUARIES

SIR EWEN BROADBENT

Sir Ewen Broadbent, KCB, CMG, a former Second Permanent Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, died on February 27 aged 68. He was born on August 9, 1924.



FOR twenty years until his retirement in 1984, Ewen Broadbent played an increasingly key role in reshaping the Ministry of Defence to meet the demands of a changing world — and those of British governments anxious to cut down on public spending. Manpower reductions, which saw the strength of the MoD's civil service cut from 231,000 to 134,000 in the 1980s, were planned and managed under his direction.

Yet a massive heart attack 24 years ago nearly ended his own career in middle age. His fight to regain his health and resume his ascent to the top of his profession was perhaps his greatest personal achievement.

He left his signature on a large slice of British history. As private secretary in the late 1950s to three successive Secretaries of State for Air — Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, Nigel Birch and the Honourable George Ward — he was involved in the Suez crisis and the 1957 defence white paper, which led to the end of National Service and to huge reductions in the RAF's manned fighter squadrons.

In the early 1960s he was in Cyprus, running the newly-created sovereign base areas for British forces. Later in the same decade he became private secretary to the Secretary of State for Defence, Denis Healey (with whom he shared a strong mutual liking and respect), when Healey was planning the withdrawal of most British troops from east of Suez.

One of his last responsibilities at the ministry was to oversee the installation of American Cruise missiles at Greenham Common in 1983, one year before he retired.

But man-management was Broadbent's professional forte. As deputy under-secretary (air) between 1972 and 1975, then deputy under-secretary (civilian management), 1975-82, and finally as second permanent under-secretary, 1982-84, he established a reputation as a first-class administrator with one of the safest pair of hands in Whitehall.

Michael Heseltine, who began restructuring the MoD soon after becoming defence secretary in January 1983, relied heavily on Broadbent as second permanent under-secretary — a job largely concerned with the ministry's internal organisation.

Courteous and almost universally well liked, he was a quietly effective, though flexible, negotiator who won the grudging admiration of the trade unions. His technique was to keep everyone talking into the small hours, then leave the room for a while. "Well, that's settled then," he would say on his return — and exhausted union leaders found themselves all too readily agreeing with him.

He was born in London, the son of a Baptist minister and his Scottish wife, who christened her son with her maiden name of Ewen. But the family soon moved to the Midlands where his father died when Ewen was only five.

He went to King Edward VI school, Nuneaton, then to St John's College, Cambridge, to read modern languages. But the war interrupted his degree course and he left Cambridge in 1943 to join The Gordon Highlanders — a choice of regiment reflecting his mother's Aberdeenshire pedigree.

He served in the Canal Zone and in Norway, where his fluent German earned him a post interrogating enemy prisoners of war following that country's liberation.

Demobilised as a captain in 1947 he returned to Cambridge, joining the Air Ministry on graduating two years later and subsequently moving to the amalgamated Ministry of Defence in 1964. After retiring from the civil service, Broadbent became vice-chairman of the Carroll Foundation, a family trust with extensive business and charitable interests. As such he was closely involved in setting up the Carroll Institute in 1989 to help fund research into the history of Gaelic Ireland. He also led the discussions over endowing the Carroll chair of Irish History at Hertford College, Oxford, the first chair of its kind in Britain.

In addition, he worked for a number of voluntary organisations during his retirement. He became a trustee of the RAF Museum, chairman of the Look Ahead housing association in south London dedicated to finding housing forthose with special needs, chairman of the Council for Voluntary Welfare Work in the armed forces, vice-chairman of the Royal United Services Institute and a member of the police interview board.

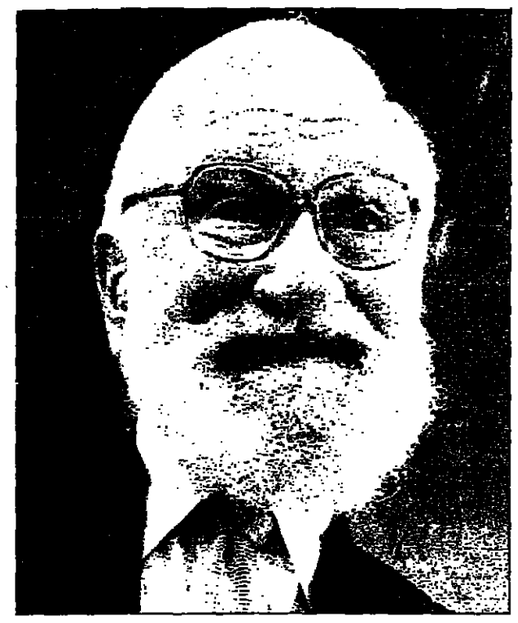
He also drew on his Whitehall experience to publish a book, *The Military and Government from Macmillan to Heseltine* (1988).

His heart attack in the late 1960s forced him to stop playing squash and turn to golf. He died after collapsing during a competition at Hampstead Golf Club whose history he had written for its centenary this year.

Sir Ewen Broadbent is survived by his wife Barbara, a former squadron officer in the Women's Royal Air Force, whom he met while they were working at the Air Ministry together, and by their one son.

DR ALBERT SABIN

Dr Albert Sabin, the American scientist who developed the oral poliomyelitis vaccine, died in Washington yesterday aged 86. He was born in Bialystok — then in Russian Poland — on August 26, 1906.



THE "live" oral vaccine, introduced in 1959 by Albert Sabin, was a decisive step in the battle against polio, and its pre-eminence over its predecessor, the Salk vaccine, was eventually acknowledged after a period of controversy.

Sabin's family emigrated to the United States in 1921, where they settled in Paterson, New Jersey. There, Sabin attended high school, and studied at New York University Medical School.

In 1935, after being appointed to the Rockefeller Institute, he embarked on the work of attenuating the live polio virus. But with the advent of war, and the involvement of American soldiers in virus-ridden Far Eastern climes, further microbiological tasks claimed his attention.

As a lieutenant-colonel in the US Army Medical Corps he developed a number of vaccines for soldiers. One of his finest achievements at this time was the headway made against dengue fever, a mosquito-transmitted disease which had for long plagued fighting men in tropical regions.

After the war, Sabin was able to resume the battle against polio. The disease was now beginning to assume the proportions of a scourge on both sides of the Atlantic, especially in the hot summers, when public swimming baths and cinemas — rich breeding grounds for infection — became places to be shunned by the prudent. In its peak year, 1952, it afflicted more than 57,000 Americans, and there was widespread alarm in this country, too, with 3,200 cases occurring in 1956, many leading to severe paralysis, especially among the young.

To Dr Jonas Salk — Sabin's rival in the race to produce a solution to the ravages of the disease — belongs the credit for making the first major step forward, with what became known as the Salk vaccine. This was developed in 1953 and tested in field trials in 1954.

But Salk's was an injected vaccine requiring three injections over an eight-month period, necessitating a medically organised programme of immunisation. And long-term immunity could not be guaranteed.

Hot on Salk's heels, Sabin was soon ready to test his live vaccine, attenuated from the disease-causing strain. It was administered orally to 26 volunteers at the Federal reformatory in Chillicothe, Ohio, in 1955, a field trial which was completely successful. This was the year in which Salk's successes received their worldwide acclaim, and a rivalry, frequently far from cordial, developed between the two men.

Sabin's live-virus vaccine was soon acknowledged to be superior to Salk's. In the Soviet Union, without further ado, 77 million people were immunised with a live virus vaccine in a single summer. It could be taken in attractively-flavoured sweets which made it especially suitable for inoculating children en masse.

But controvery over its alleged dangers delayed until 1960 official approval by the US public health service. In the meantime large-scale inoculation programmes had gone ahead in several countries under the auspices of the World Health Organisation.

Sabin bore the controversy philosophically. From Latin America, on a tour to dispense his cherry-flavoured magic to the needy, he calmly pronounced that his vaccine would eventually eliminate the disease entirely (a claim proven to be less hyperbolic than it seemed at the time).

But he did not rest on his laurels. Like Salk, he turned his attention to cancer research, focusing on anti-cancer viruses which occur naturally in the human body. He also gave a high priority to work on vaccines for influenza, hepatitis and a range of respiratory diseases.

In his personal dealings Sabin was quiet and unassuming. He was fond of saying that his only real achievement was his two daughters.

But in the laboratory he was a different man. He regarded himself as the sworn foe of disease. From his time in the army medical corps he had picked up much of the terminology of the battlefield, and in colourfully aggressive language he would describe his attacks on viruses much as military operations.

Sabin, who was Jewish, served as president of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel from 1970-72. On his return to America he became a consultant at the National Institutes of Health, then a professor at the Medical University of South Carolina and, finally, a visiting professor at Georgetown University in Washington.

In November 1983, he was afflicted by a mysterious paralysing ailment, from which he later recovered. Doctors diagnosed his difficulty as polyneuritis, a disease of the nerve fibre.

In 1970, President Nixon awarded Sabin America's National Medal of Science. He also received decorations from Mexico, Italy and Yugoslavia.

Sabin was thrice married, first, in 1935, to Sylvia Tregillus who died in 1966. A second marriage in 1967 to Jane Warner was dissolved in 1971, and the following year he married Heloisa Dunshee de Abranches. There were two daughters of the first marriage.

PROFESSOR ALISON FAIRLIE

Alison Fairlie, Professor of French at Cambridge University, 1972-80, died on February 21 aged 75. She was born on May 23, 1917.



ALISON Fairlie was an outstanding scholar of French literature and an inspiring teacher who played a central part in launching Modern Languages as a serious discipline in British universities after the second world war.

Until then, the subject had been something of a poor relation to History and Classics, with little ambition for itself apart from the efficient teaching of linguistic skills. Literature was surveyed historically for the benefit of undergraduates, and its landmarks were pointed out in respectful tones, but detailed critical analysis was rare.

Fairlie changed all that. She brought to the study of French an extraordinary responsiveness to the grain and texture of language, and in her own critical writing skilfully teased out layers of meaning in works that others had been content to characterise simply as "masterpieces".

Alison Anna Bowie Fairlie was born in Lerwick, Shetland. Her father was a Minister of the Church of Scotland, and she maintained close links with Scotland throughout her life. Educated at Penrhos College, Colwyn Bay, she went up to St Hugh's College, Oxford, in 1935, and graduated with First Class Honours in Medieval and Modern Languages in 1938. In the same year she began working as a research student in Paris.

On the outbreak of war, she undertook voluntary work in billeting and rationing offices but was advised by the central employment bureau for universities to complete her research. She returned to Paris and continued research until the fall of France in June 1940.

After many adventures, she escaped on the last boat from Bordeaux, completing her research in Oxford and being awarded the D.Phil. degree for her thesis on *Leconte de Lisle's Poems on the Barbarian Races* in 1943. For two years she served as a Temporary Administrative Officer in the Foreign Office, spending much of her time at Bletchley.

Her academic career began in the autumn of 1944, when she was appointed Lecturer in French at Girton College, Cambridge and culminated in 1972 when she became the first holder of a personal professorship in the Cambridge French department.

But her outlook was in no way parochial. In 1968 and 1969, she was elected president of the Society for French Studies and in 1969, a member of the Council of the Association Internationale des Etudes Françaises. She lectured in the United States, and Australia, and was much in demand as an external examiner for graduate and undergraduate courses. She was elected to a fellowship of the British Academy in 1984.

The extraordinary record of Girton College in Modern Languages over a period of thirty years was due primarily to Fairlie's work as Director of Studies. Her skill in selecting candidates for admission to the college was legendary, as was her ability to bring out the best in her students by a mixture of exacting teaching and personal kindness. Her lectures were always popular with undergraduates and many a future scholar caught the first glimpse of their research ideas in her stimulating company.

Fairlie's own published work comprised the thesis on Leconte de Lisle, which appeared as a book in 1945; monographs on Baudelaire's *Les Fleurs du Mal* (1960) and Flaubert's *Madame Bovary* (1962); and a series of seminal articles on four French authors (Constant and Nerval, Baudelaire and Flaubert), collected into a book, *Imagination and Language*, in 1981. Characteristically energetic in retirement, she was one of a team currently producing a complete edition of Benjamin Constant's works.

Her critical manner was often questioning and speculative. But the questions she asked always took their cue from the words on the page, as she sought to bring the reader back with renewed enjoyment to the text's central riches. She wrote with precision about ambiguity in literature and, during a period when criticism suffered from factional narrowness, was one of the few who remained generously plural in their approach. While attending closely to the formal properties of a literary work she was aware that much that lay beyond it — variant readings or the author's personal relationships — could prompt the scholar to valuable new insights.

Fairlie's principal concern was for people. For her, literature was a source not of formal puzzles but of illumination on human life. But this illumination acquired its worth only by being given adequate expression. Her own writing was always clear and elegant. She was a great scholar, and as all who knew her know, a rare human being.

SIR RODERICK MACLEOD

Sir Roderick MacLeod, chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, died of cancer on January 22 aged 63. He was born in Scotland on September 20, 1929.

HUGH Roderick MacLeod was brought up at Loughborough and went to Bryanston School. His roots, however, were firmly on Skye and, later in life, he had great pleasure in buying an old schoolhouse there where his grandfather had been educated.

After National Service in the Royal Horse Artillery, he went up to St John's College, Cambridge, to study law. There his natural eye for the ball earned him a half blue at squash, a game in which he was later to represent Scotland.

On going down from Cambridge, he joined the Thomson family business of Ben Line in Edinburgh in 1953. He spent 18 years with them and, during that period, was largely responsible for setting up Trio, one of the early container consortiums. This involved two years of constant commuting between Japan, Germany, London and Edinburgh: even his enormous will-power and stamina were taxed by this commitment.

Once, when challenged on how he managed to do it, he replied: "When you travel by air you become a cabbage and you need one hour a day to yourself." During this one hour MacLeod usually managed to find an organ on which to play. His love of music covered classical, jazz and Victorian sheet music — and he played the piano and organ to a very high standard.



He also found great pleasure and relaxation in farming his land at his house in Saline, Fife.

While in Scotland, MacLeod was involved with the Port Authorities and the National Ports Council, was a member of Leith Docks Commission 1960-65 and later the Forth Port Authorities. He was chairman of Associated Container Transport 1975-78 and, outside shipping, was on the board of British Rail and chairman of its Scottish Division in 1980 and 1981.

In 1983, he became chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping in London. The appointment gave him his greatest challenge — an exacting post in which he was able to employ, to the full, his incisive and challenging mind, and where his own high standards of integrity matched perfectly the job he was doing.

A stroke two years ago robbed him of his ability to play the piano, which was a great sadness to him. Roderick MacLeod married Josephine Seager Berry in 1958, the marriage being dissolved in 1985. There were three children, who survive him.

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THE ROCHEFORT SQUADRON.

Mr Calcraft considered that he should be neglecting his duty to his country if he did not endeavour to institute a public enquiry into the circumstances connected with the escape of the French squadron from Rochefort. He considered that the inability of Sir R. Strachan to pursue them was owing to the neglect of the Board of Admiralty; and he could expect nothing but failures from that Board as it was now constituted. At the head of the Admiralty he saw a Nobleman (Lord Mulgrave) who he considered as inexperienced and as unfit a man to be at the head of that Board, as any person that could be found in the whole country. From the man who thought proper in 1805 to expose to the whole world the most confidential communications between the Governments of this country and of Austria, he could not expect a sounder judgment in any thing than he had shewn in the selection of Admiral Gambier, and in many other points connected with the Copenhagen expedition. From such a First Lord of the Admiralty he could expect no better attention to our blockading squadrons than that which the fleet under Sir R. Strachan had experienced.

[Another MP, holding a subordinate office in the Admiralty attacked the Hon Gentleman for his "unjust, and unfounded attack upon the head of the Admiralty," but Mr Calcraft was unrepentant and returned to the attack.]

He felt it incumbent on him to repel the charge of having said any thing calculated to raise discontent in the fleet. What he said, and would repeat, was that the person at the head of the Admiralty had given proofs of his inefficiency and of his being unfit for that situation. This he had shewn in two instances. The first was by appointing Sir H. Popham to be Captain of the Fleet which was sent into the Baltic, an appointment which he had no hesitation in saying had created universal disgust throughout the navy, to see such a man raised to so important a situation, after the sentence of a Court-Martial; than which there could not be a more ill-judged, ill-advised, and imprudent measure. The other instance was the subject of the present debate. Should the Papers which it was the object of his motion to obtain be granted, he was confident that he would be able to make out such a case as would prove that Sir Richard Strachan's squadron had been most reprehensibly neglected.

ON THIS DAY

March 4 1808

Britannia, to judge from this Parliamentary extract, did not seem to be ruling the waves all that well at the time, although it was less than three years since Nelson's victory at Trafalgar.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Police victory against IRA

■ Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch has made an important breakthrough in the battle to halt the IRA's mainland bombing campaign.

Police are assessing a haul of guns, up to 30lb of Semtex and bomb-making equipment destined to sustain a prolonged series of bombings. Five suspects are to be questioned today ..... **Page 1**

Tides threaten to flood east coast

The proximity of the Moon threatens the country with the highest tides this century creating the danger of widespread flooding. The great swath of low-lying England between the Humber and the Thames estuaries is most at risk. The threat is so great that officials of the Met Office's storm tide warning service are holding a special meeting tomorrow ..... **Page 1**

Clark decision

The former trade minister Alan Clark will not be prosecuted for providing inconsistent evidence in the abortive Matrix Churchil trial over arms-related exports to Iraq, the Crown Prosecution Service said yesterday..... **Page 1**

Fanatic hangs on

The fanatical leader of the Branch Davidian cult, David Koresh, said he was awaiting instructions from God before leaving the fortified compound in Texas where he and his followers have been under siege since Sunday..... **Page 1**

Teaching move

The government is planning a network of schools to train teachers along lines similar to the way in which teaching hospitals train doctors ..... **Page 1**

Boy rapists

Two teenage boys convicted of raping a 13-year-old girl were named at the Old Bailey after a judge lifted a ban on their identification. Judge Nina Lowry said that it was neither right nor in the public interest for the rapists, aged 15 and 16, to be "cloaked in anonymity" ..... **Page 3**

Clinton pledge

President Clinton promised that the American airdrops of aid over eastern Bosnia would continue, in spite of reports that Serbs had attacked civilians who were trying to reach the food. Another drop was expected last night ..... **Page 12**

Hidden talents

Rover assembly workers who temporarily became salesmen under a flexibility deal agreed with the unions last year revealed hidden talents, selling 500 cars a week..... **Page 7**

Research boost

The discovery of a gene responsible for some cases of motor neuron disease may lead to better treatment of the condition, which kills 1,000 people a year in Britain..... **Page 5**

Hire car alert

Which? magazine has highlighted the danger of faulty hire cars and vans after finding that most vehicles tested in a survey fell short of basic road safety requirements ..... **Page 5**

Ulster example

The home secretary's plans to detain persistent juvenile offenders in a network of secure units are closely modelled on a system in Northern Ireland in which courts can send young offenders to training schools ..... **Page 9**

Culture shock

Nissan's announcement of the closure of its Zama car plant with 5,000 job losses by 1995 has taken on the proportions of a national tragedy..... **Page 11**

Russian deadlock

The commanders of Russia's military districts yesterday urged President Yeltsin to take resolute action to break the country's political deadlock ..... **Page 13**

Cutting the cost of death

■ The average cost of a burial has risen by 15 per cent in a year to £1,035, researchers say. But an advocate of do-it-yourself funerals says his methods can save at least £800. Nick Albery, a director of the Natural Death Centre, says the savings can be made by organising it yourself. "You have a much more personalised affair as a result."..... **Page 5**



In at the deep end: Tim Welling, Julia Scharfenkamp and Anna Stimpsig, all six months old, taking their weekly swimming lesson at a pool in Bonn. The babies began the course, aimed at developing physical skills, when they were eight weeks old

BUSINESS

Brighter outlook: Retail sales continue on an upward trend and the narrow M0 measure of money in circulation is rising strongly, said the monthly monetary report of the Treasury and the Bank of England. But inflationary pressures remain weak..... **Page 23**

Bank boost: Midland Bank reported profits up to £178 million before tax from £36 million, helped by a reduction in provisions for bad debts..... **Page 23**

Markets: Dealers marked shares higher on improved economic prospects and the FT-SE 100 index closed at a record high of 2,918.6, up 36.3 points. The pound rose .60 pfennigs to DM2.3841 but eased .05 cents against the dollar to $1.4500..... **Page 26**

SPORT

Athletics: The sprinter Ben Johnson has denied reports that he has tested positive for taking performance-enhancing substances. Johnson was banished from the 1988 Seoul Olympics after failing a drugs test ..... **Pages 42, 44**

Rugby: England's full-back, Jonathan Webb, is the last of a dying breed — the genuine amateur in a game fast becoming professional to the core. David Hands discovers Webb's secret..... **Page 39**

Football: Liverpool have rejected an attempt by Aston Villa to buy their England international winger John Barnes for £1 million in cash plus two players ..... **Page 42**

BOOKS

Updike's memories: John Updike's new novel is a mosaic built up out of the fragments of one man's life and work, in which morals are corrupted in a small-town campus of the Ford era..... **Page 37**

God and the Devil: Articles on Karen Armstrong's *History of God* and *The Chatto Book of the Devil* provide a feast for believers and unbelievers alike ..... **Page 36**

BODY AND MIND

Who's there? Books and plays have been written about it. The film, *The Three Faces of Eve*, made thousands think they might have it. But does Multiple Personality Disorder exist?..... **Page 15**

ARTS

X-rated: Spike Lee's *Malcolm X*, which opens in Britain this week, is a reverential and lengthy film portrayal of the black civil-rights activist. Also out this week is *Toys*, a comedy from the maker of *Good Morning, Vietnam* ..... **Page 33**

Nige in clubland: Ronnie Scott's Birmingham club has been swinging to the sound of Nigel Kennedy playing jazz. And, reports *The Times*'s jazz critic, it's actually not bad..... **Page 34**

Birmingham plot: Bill Alexander, newly appointed director of the Birmingham Rep, has big ambitions for the theatre, starting tomorrow with his own staging of *Othello* ..... **Page 35**

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Spreading the word: "Mam, we want to inform the world of our mission," said Tech Sgt David Masko. We had just got off an American C-130 Hercules having spent six hours flying to Bosnia and back. "We hope you had the experience of a lifetime." Alice Thomson joins Operation Provide Promise, America's attempt to drop supplies to war-stricken areas..... **Page 14**

TRAVEL

Air wars: British Airways is challenging continental airlines for a slice of the lucrative market within Europe. BA, using its French partner TAT, is to fly on prime routes from Paris, in direct competition with Air France ..... **Page 16**



Lady Green, the estranged wife of Sir Allan Green, killed herself by putting a plastic bag over her head, a coroner's inquest has ruled
Page 3



Hanna Suchocka, the prime minister of Poland, urged John Major to draw up a timetable for her country's swift entry to the EC
Page 12



Anne Robinson, whose departure from the Daily Mirror is another symptom of troubles the paper and its bankers are struggling to contain
Page 6



Olympic goal medallist Steve Redgrave has criticised plans for lightweight rowing races at the 1996 Games in Atlanta
Page 40

TONIGHT

Tonight's choice

The comedian Harry Enfield hosts a plain person's introduction to arias and divas in *Harry Enfield's Guide to Opera* (Channel 4, 10.30pm)..... **Page 43**

COMMENT

Stand up to China

In spite of a barrage of propaganda from Peking without precedent since the confrontations during the Cultural Revolution, two out of three Hong Kong people still support the Patten proposals ..... **Page 19**

Tory blues

If Conservative activists are going to criticise their leaders, they should do so where it can make a difference — over the governance of Britain..... **Page 19**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

With the world in recession, and both Germany and Japan in serious economic crisis, only the United States, and the policies that President Clinton applies, can produce a global recovery. But is the president addressing the right issues? ..... **Page 18**

ANNE McELVOY

Bizarre as the lifestyle and demise of the two brothers from the obscure autonomy-seeking republic of Chechen may seem to us, the tale of their deaths in London is being greeted with indifference by most Russians, who would be pretty surprised if a day went by without a gory mafia murder ..... **Page 18**

LETTERS

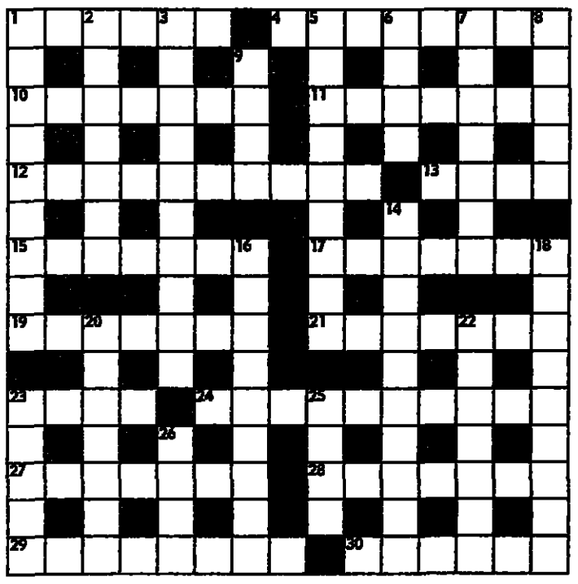
Correspondents join the controversy over the Archbishop of York's television comments on juvenile crime and his letter to *The Times* ..... **Page 19**

LEADING ARTICLE

A few days ago, we thought that the American decision to drop food and medicine on Bosnia would have a dissuasive effect on the ground. For operation "provide promises", although strictly humanitarian, still marked the United State's entry into the Balkan conflict. And historically, in these troubled regions, Washington's voice counts more than the others. But those who defended this "optimistic" viewpoint should not exactly rejoice, for the moment. They should even feel a bit glum.

Le Monde

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,169



ACROSS

1 Eastern language used in Roman church (6).
4 Early birds (4-4).
10 Medicine man (7).
11 Like novel in the latest style author produced (7).
12 Yank grabbed by the Ripper — what a sad story! (4-6).
13 Swing producing government (4).
15 Managed to get 100 in the shares issue (7).
17 One-day treatment requiring injection of new drug (7).
19 Only one daughter in scarlet gown? Correct (7).
21 Friendly monarch embraced by subject (7).
23 Go for Scots in group of criminals (4).
24 Old boy mixed girl a cocktail (6,4).
27 Cavalryman in force (7).
28 Fruit bringing 'orrendous confusion and bother (7).
29 Assume management to be responsible for deliveries (4,4).
30 King's tucking into goose soup (6).

DOWN

1 Reflective type as peacemaker wraps up end of conflict (9).
2 A river, moreover, goes over here (7).
3 Criminal given top honour with hesitation (10).
5 Informed about article on dancing (2,3,4).
6 Finishes off 30 in massacre (4).
7 Bitterly complain over progress in one form of transport (7).
8 Darling child has to travel to journey's end (5).
9 Play leading role as symbol of state (4).
14 Drudgery essential in academic job (6-4).
16 Style Anne adapted for melodramatic piece (4,5).
18 All of us jolly stiff after end of game (9).
20 Country in retreat, note (7).
22 Sharp instrument a Duke produced in affray (7).
23 Theatrical character a couple expected to follow up (5).
25 Topping wine? Fine! (4).
26 One's flight isn't quite that close to the ground (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,168

			T	H	O	R	O	U	G	H	B	R	E	D
J		W		P		V		Y		A		G		
A	S	I	N	I	N	E		V	A	R	I	O	U	S
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Concise Crossword, page 44

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For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Cloud with rain and drizzle over northwest Scotland, and some snow on the hills, will spread southeastwards. The rain will turn light and patchy and parts of Northern Ireland may stay dry. Most of England and Wales should then be dry. It should be a little brighter in places. Mild and windy in the north, but still rather cold in the southeast. Outlook: some light rain or sleet on Friday in the north and east. Becoming milder.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	10	50	c	Madrid	10	50	f
Alicante	18	64	s	Majorca	12	54	f
Alex'dria	19	66	s	Malaga	14	57	s
Algiers	13	55	f	Malta	15	59	s
Amst'dm	-1	30	f	Melb'rne	18	64	c
Athens	15	59	r	Mexico C*	20	68	s
Bahrain	24	75	s	Miami*	24	75	s
Bangkok	32	90	f	Milan	7	45	f
Barbados*	28	82	c	Montreal*	-2	28	c
Barcelna	10	50	s	Moscow	-5	23	s
Beirut	17	63	s	Munich	0	32	sn
Belgrade	2	36	c	Nairobi	28	79	f
Berlin	-2	28	f	Naples	11	52	r
Bermuda*	18	64	f	N Delhi	24	75	s
Biarritz	8	46	c	N York*	7	45	s
Borde'x	6	43	c	Nice	10	50	f
Brussels	-1	30	c	Oslo	-5	23	s
Budapst	0	32	sn	Paris	4	39	f
Cairo	23	73	s	Peking	12	54	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Perth	30	86	s
Chicago*	4	39	c	Prague	-2	28	s
Ch'church	21	70	s	Reykjavik	1	34	sl
Cologne	3	37	s	Rhodes	16	61	s
C'phagn	0	32	c	Rio de J	32	90	s
Corfu	7	45	f	Riyadh	34	93	s
Dublin	6	43	c	Rome	12	54	c
Dubrownik	8	46	r	Salzburg	2	36	sn
Faro	12	54	f	S F'risco*	12	54	f
Florence	9	48	c	Santiago*	26	79	s
Frankfurt	0	32	s	S Paulo*	28	82	f
Funchal	16	61	f	Seoul	7	45	c
Geneva	3	37	d	Sing'por	30	86	f
Gibraltar	14	57	s	St'kholm	-3	27	c
Helsinki	1	30	d	Strasb'rg	1	34	c
Hong K	12	54	f	Sydney	20	68	s
Innsbruck	2	36	s	Tangier	15	59	f
Istanbul	8	46	f	Tel Aviv	17	63	c
Jeddah	32	90	s	Tenerife	19	66	f
Jo'burg*	18	64	c	Tokyo	10	50	s
Karachi	29	84	s	Toronto*	3	37	c
L Palmas	20	68	f	Tunis	14	57	f
La Toquet	1	34	f	Valencia	15	59	s
Lisbon	9	48	s	Vanc'ver*	8	46	f
Locarno	6	43	d	Venice	7	45	c
London	3	37	c	Vienna	-1	30	sn
L Angels*	15	59	s	Warsaw	-3	27	f
Luxembg	1	34	f	Wash'ton*	15	59	f
Luxor	35	95	s	Wel'nton	23	73	f
				Zurich	1	34	sn

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6pm to 6am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6pm, 57 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.2hr. Bar. mean sea level, 6pm, 1,023.8 millibars, rising
1,000 millibars = 29.53in

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, 6C (43F); lowest day max, Buxton, Derbyshire, 1C (34F); highest rainfall, Kirkwall, Orkney, and Wick, Highland, 0.28in; highest sunshine Tiree, Inner Hebrides, 8.7hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6pm to 6am, 3C (37F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.4hr

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp, max 6am to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6pm to 6am, —1C (30F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.1hr

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.11	3	37	snow
Aviemore	0.2	0.03	1	34	snow
Belfast	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Bognor Regis	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Bournemouth	-	-	4	39	dull
Bristol	-	-	5	41	dull
Buxton	0.4	-	-1	34	cloudy
Cardiff	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Clacton	0.2	-	5	41	cloudy
Cromer	-	-	3	37	dull
Douglas	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Edinburgh	0.1	0.06	4	39	shower
Eskdalemuir	-	0.01	2	36	snow
Exmouth	-	-	4	39	dull
Falmouth	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Folkestone	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Glasgow	-	0.02	4	39	snow
Guernsey	-	-	6	43	cloudy
Hastings	-	-	4	39	dull
Hunstanton	-	0.01	3	37	dull
Jersey	-	-	6	43	dull
Kinloss	1.7	-	4	39	rain
Leeds	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Lerwick	1.5	0.02	4	39	shower
Littlehampton	-	-	4	39	cloudy
London	-	-	5	41	dull
Manchester	-	-	5	41	dull
Margate	x	-	5	41	dull
Minehead	-	-	5	41	dull
Morecambe	0.1	-	5	41	dull
Newcastle	-	0.02	4	39	cloudy
Newquay	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Nottingham	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Penzance	-	-	6	43	dull
Plymouth	-	-	4	39	dull
Poole	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Prestwick	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Salcombe	-	-	4	39	dull
Sandown	-	-	4	39	dull
Saunton Snd	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Scarborough	-	-	3	37	dull
Scilly Isles	-	-	6	43	dull
Shanklin	-	-	4	39	dull
Southsea	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Stornoway	7.7	-	5	41	sunny
Swanage	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Teignmouth	-	-	4	39	dull
Tenby	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Tiree	8.7	-	5	41	sunny
Torquay	-	-	4	39	dull
Weymouth	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Wick	-	0.26	3	37	thundr
Worthing	-	-	5	41	dull

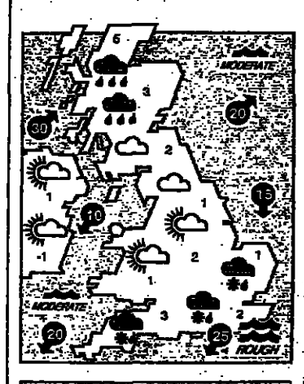
X denotes not available

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.165	1.955
Austria Sch	17.30	16.90
Belgium Fr	52.40	48.00
Canada $	1.93	1.77
Denmark Kr	9.78	8.98
Finland Mkk	9.25	8.45
France Fr	8.58	7.88
Germany Dm	2.53	2.33
Greece Dr	3.43	3.18
Hong Kong $	11.87	10.87
Ireland Pt	1.04	0.96
Italy Lira	2385.00	2220.00
Japan Yen	187.25	168.25
Netherlands Gld	2.85	2.62
Norway Kr	10.71	9.91
Portugal Esc	230.30	212.30
South Africa Rd	5.30	4.60
Spain Pta	177.00	164.00
Sweden Kr	11.74	10.84
Switzerland Fr	2.335	2.155
Turkey Lira	14250.0	13250.0
USA $	1.542	1.417

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

SUN



MOON



LIGHTING UP

London 5.48 pm to 6.40 am
Bristol 5.56 pm to 6.49 am
Edinburgh 5.53 pm to 6.57 am
Manchester 5.52 pm to 6.50 am
Penzance 6.09 pm to 7.00 am

Sun rises: 6.40 am — Sun sets: 5.46 pm
Moon sets: 4.09 am — Moon rises: 12.53 pm
Full moon March 8

YESTERDAY

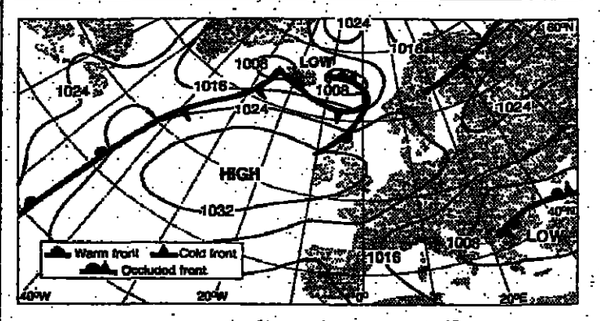
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	5	41	s	Guernsey	6	43	f
B'mgham	3	37	c	Inverness	2	36	d
Blackpool	4	39	c	Jersey	6	43	f
Bristol	5	41	c	London	3	37	c
Cardiff	5	41	c	M'nchster	5	41	c
Edinburgh	2	36	c	Newcastle	3	37	r
Glasgow	4	39	c	R'nldsway	6	43	f

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.25	5.7	10.09	5.8	Liverpool	7.12	7.4	7.55	7.7
Aberdeen	9.29	3.4	10.17	3.5	Lowestoft	5.31	2.0	5.50	2.0
Avonmouth	2.29	10.0	3.24	10.4	Margate	7.48	3.8	8.32	4.0
Belfast	6.59	3.0	7.44	2.9	Milford Haven	1.51	5.2	2.44	5.4
Cardiff	2.14	9.4	3.09	9.7	Newquay	12.51	5.3	1.42	5.4
Devonport	1.02	4.4	1.58	4.3	Oban	2.10	3.0	3.21	3.1
Dover	8.55	5.9	7.45	5.4	Penzance	12.18	4.4	1.10	4.3
Falmouth	12.32	4.2	1.28	4.1	Portland	1.25	1.4	2.47	1.3
Glasgow	8.31	4.0	9.50	3.9	Renfrew	6.58	3.9	7.58	4.0
Harwich	7.24	3.2	8.04	3.1	Portsmouth	7.04	4.9	7.55	5.2
Holyhead	6.35	4.5	7.16	4.6	Shoreham	7.04	4.9	7.55	5.2
Hull	2.06	5.9	2.43	5.9	Southampton	6.58	3.8	4.53	3.9
Ilfracombe	1.34	6.9	2.28	7.0	Swansea	2.06	7.4	2.50	7.8
King's Lynn	2.14	4.8	2.48	5.0	Tees	11.58	4.3		
Leith	10.41	4.4	11.22	4.6	W'ton-on-Nze	7.24	3.4	8.06	3.3

WEATHER MAP



Information supplied by Met Office

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Roger Scruton: outfoxing Socrates and Plato



ARTS 33-35

Bill Alexander has big ambitions for Birmingham Rep



SPORT 39-44

Steven Redgrave attacks rowing plans for Atlanta

INSOLVENCY: STOP THE BLOODBATH
Page 31

THE TIMES

2

THURSDAY MARCH 4 1993

Shares soar on new signs of a recovery

By Our Business Staff

■ The next round of economic indicators will provide evidence of economic recovery, Treasury officials say in an optimistic monthly report ahead of the Budget

SHARE prices rose to record levels against a background of further evidence that Britain's economy is recovering from recession.

The latest Treasury review of economic progress said retail sales rose strongly in January, more than making up for December's fall. Shop sales are on an upward trend that began last spring and overall economic activity is apparently slightly stronger than current official forecasts, the Treasury suggests.

Surveys from the two biggest building societies, the Halifax and Nationwide, provided a "cautiously optimistic picture", with increased activity making up for weakness in house prices. Figures from Britain's 15 biggest housebuilders also showed new homes sales rose a fifth in the first eight weeks of the year, backing up anecdotal reports of an improvement.

Sterling climbed a pfennig against the mark to DM2.3830, and showed more strength against the dollar. Share prices soared to an all-time high after a 45-point overnight rise in the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street.

The FT-SE 100 index opened on a firm note and closed near its best of the day, rising 36.3 to a record 2,918.6, helped by another opening rise in New York. Dealers said sentiment has also been boosted by mounting speculation about a further softening in European interest rates before today's Bundesbank meeting.

The index has risen 100 points in the past eight days and many traders are becoming anxious that the equity market is running ahead of events. They say the record breaking may soon grind to a halt as market-makers attempt to call prices lower before the Budget in an attempt to flush out sellers.

On the bond market, prices at the longer end continued to move higher, with gains of around £½. The Bank of England was able to supply stock from the four tranches issued this week totalling £1 billion.

The British Treasury noted in its monthly monetary report that retail sales remained on an upward trend and the narrow M0 measure of money supply — a key leading leading indicator — had risen sharply.

Car registrations remained at a high level and are expected to show further strength when official figures for February are released today.

However, concern over unemployment was voiced at yesterday's Confederation of British Industry council meeting. The CBI, whose recent reports on activity have added to the economic optimism, said the jobless total is unlikely to fall below 2.25 million even when the recovery becomes established. CBI leaders are preparing a list of proposals for the government aimed at reducing the total.

Reaction from economists supported the view that the economy is on the mend. Trevor Laugharne, strategist at Kleinwort Benson, said: "There is a general, widening belief that recovery is under way. The balance of news for the market is definitely on the positive side."

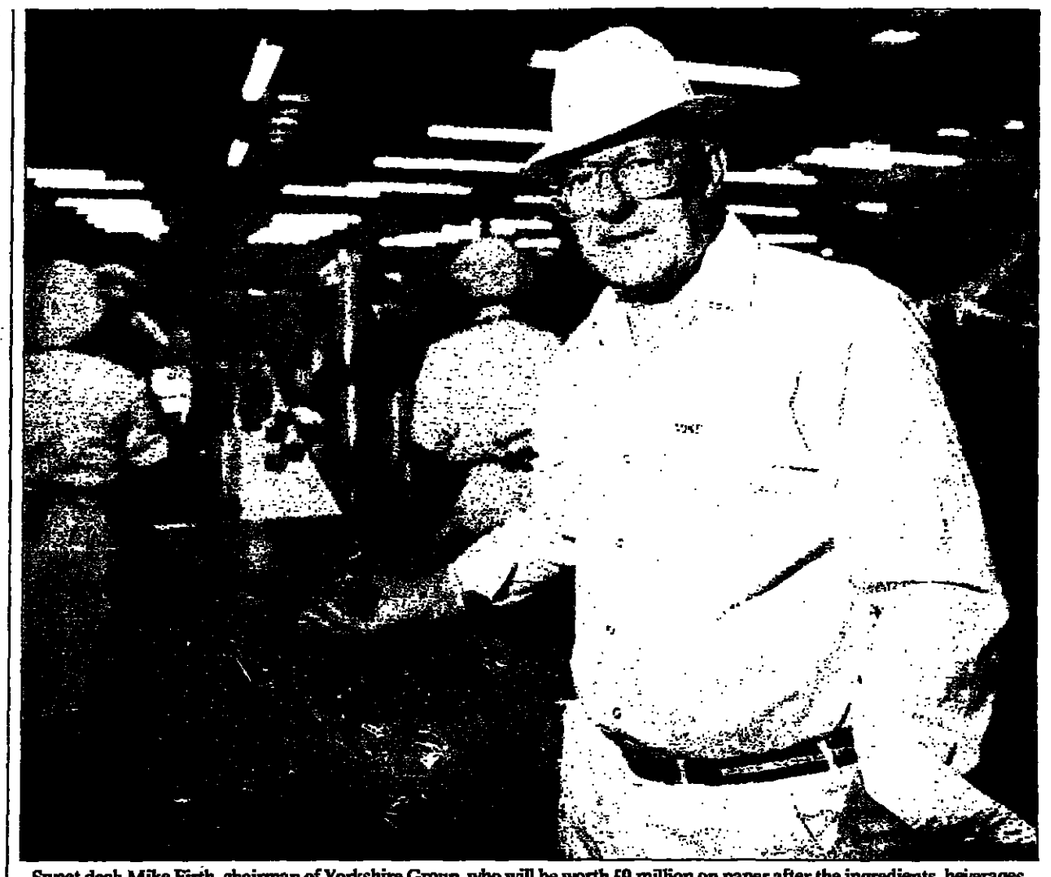
One dealer added: "The US market, firmer currency and the housing sales reinforce the view that the recovery is gently starting."

Nigel Pain of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research said: "This time round there does appear to be more hard evidence of why business confidence is improving, not least because exporters are benefitting from the lower pound."

Andrew Milligan, economist at Smith New Court, the broker, said: "We would expect some very modest growth in the economy in the first half of this year." He expects the economy to expand 1.3 per cent in 1993, and by around 3 per cent next year.

Sally Wilkinson, an economist at Morgan Grenfell, said: "There is going to be a tentative recovery this year but the expansion will be slow because of consumer debt and the weak housing market combined with a weak international export market."

CBI backs workfare, page 24
Stock market, page 26
Tempus, page 27



Sweet deal: Mike Firth, chairman of Yorkshire Group, who will be worth £9 million on paper after the ingredients, beverages and bakery group that he founded with a £3,000 overdraft in 1979 joins the stock market. (Story, page 25; Tempus, page 27)

BUSINESS TODAY

PRESSURE

Alliance Gas is urging greater competition for the 18 million customers in Britain's £5.8 billion a year domestic gas market
Page 24

PROTEST

The City is complaining about the accountancy profession's moves to overhaul often-abused rules
Page 27

PROVISIONS

EURO TUNNEL

BICC is making provisions as talks between Eurotunnel and the Channel tunnel contractors grind to a halt
Page 24, Tempus 27

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4500 (-0.0005)
German mark 2.3841 (+0.0060)
Exchange index 77.4 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2918.6 (+36.3)
Dow Jones ..... 3408.64 (+8.11)*
Nikkei Avge ..... 16853.92 (-10.33)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 6⅛-6⅛
US Federal Funds 3⅛%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.96-2.94%*
Long Bond 6.80%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4500*	£:$	1.4495
$:DM	1.6450*	£:DM	2.3873
$:SWfr	1.5255*	£:SWfr	2.2139
$:Ffr	5.5865*	£:Ffr	8.0990
$:Yen	117.10*	£:Yen	169.37
£:SDR	1.0480	£:ECU	1.2289

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 329.55 ..... PM 329.55
Close 329.30-329.80
New York:
Comex 330.05-330.55*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 137.9 January (1.7%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Midland leaps to £178m

By Patricia Tehan

BRIAN Pearse, Midland Bank's chief executive, yesterday said that while the economic gloom was beginning to lift, any real recovery was unlikely until next year.

Mr Pearse was unveiling a jump in Midland's pre-tax profits from £36 million to £178 million last year, helped by lower bad debt provisions, from £903 million to £676 million in 1992.

Mr Pearse said there was little real improvement last year, but "we can see glimmers of light".

He said: "It could be that the greatly reduced interest rates and more favourable exchange rate are beginning to bear fruit. We have seen a number of false starts in the past and we will need to monitor these developments carefully.

"Perhaps we will not see any real recovery until 1994 but Midland Bank starts 1993 in good heart."

Mr Pearse said he was not in favour of further interest rate cuts. "Enough has been done to begin to develop confidence again."

The Midland figures bode well for its parent company, HSBC Holdings, which will report on March 15. Analysts are forecasting a turnround from a pro forma £867 million to £1.8 billion.

Mr Pearse said last year, when HSBC and Lloyds Bank battled for control of Midland, was a disruptive period for the group. But he said the uncertainty "is now out of the way" and Midland plans to capitalise on the strength obtained from its merger last summer with HSBC.

Mr Pearse said the bank did not intend to end free banking for Midland's personal account customers who remain in credit. Instead he wants to make them more profitable for the bank by selling them financial services.

He said further cutbacks were unlikely and the present 1,700 branches, reduced by 300, was about the right number.

Midland's profit figure was achieved after £122 million restructuring costs, which followed its takeover by HSBC. The provisions figure was flattered by the release of £89 million Third World debt provisions.

In the bank's three main business areas, commercial banking made a profit before tax of £138 million, compared with a loss of £50 million in 1991.

The figure was achieved after bad debt charges of £557 million, 31 per cent down on the previous year.

Midland's merchant banking division made a £33 million loss before tax compared with a £34 million profit in 1991. There was a £45 million rise in the merchant bank's bad debt charge to £77 million, £65 million of which fell in the second half and relates mostly to two companies.

Forward Trust, Midland's consumer credit division, held profits level at £43 million before tax, despite a fall in net interest income as new business fell off. Forward Trust's bad debt charge declined by 29 per cent to £41 million.

The bank's total capital ratio strengthened from 10.3 per cent to 10.7 per cent and its tier one ratio improved from 5.5 per cent to 5.7 per cent.

Tempus, page 27

UB hints at more takeovers

By George Sivell, City Editor

UNITED Biscuits yesterday hinted it would consider further takeovers after confirming the £220 million sale of Terry's, the confectionery group, to Kraft General Foods, part of Philip Morris, the American conglomerate.

United said it was "free and flexible to pursue our strategy in biscuits and snacks" after the disposal. The shares, which rose sharply on news that Terry's was for sale, fell 13p to 379p.

As a result of the Terry's deal, analysts say the group's borrowings decline from an expected 90 per cent at the end of this year to 50 per cent. This gives the food group scope for more deals, in addition to the £24 million acquisition last week of Derwent Valley Food, the Phileas Fogg snack group, and the £50 million acquisition of Bake-Line, the American own-label cookie maker.

Terry's employs 2,500 staff in Britain and trades under the Callard & Bowser, Nuttalls, Smith Kendon, Chocometz and Aura brand names. It made a trading profit of £14.3 million in 1991 on sales of £153 million, and had net assets of £84 million.

United Biscuits' figures for last year are still being worked out but analysts predict that Terry's performed similarly in 1992, which means that Kraft has paid 23 times earnings for the number four company in the British confectionery market with a share of just 5 per cent.

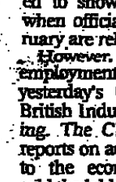
Kraft, however, needs to build up its confectionery operations on the Continent after its purchase of Suchard in 1990.

Kraft has an offer on the table to acquire Freia Marabou, the Scandinavian confectionery group, but the deal is still subject to approval by the Norwegian regulators.

The sale will bring a £75 million net profit to United Biscuits after charging £33 million of goodwill previously written off in reserves.

Tempus, page 27

The real value of devaluation



ANATOLE KALETSKY

John Major says the key to Britain's newfound international competitiveness is not social dumping, but "dumping socialism". It is a good line, but there are many more Euro-concepts Mr Major will have to dump if he wants to revive Britain's economy and rehabilitate his government. A good place to start would be with the Bank of England's pretensions to German-style independence, embodied in a series of mischievous pronouncements, the latest being a speech delivered by the Governor on Monday.

This speech, like one two weeks ago by the deputy governor, was widely interpreted as hinting that interest rates could fall no further and that Britain would raise interest rates if necessary to "defend" the pound. Neither of the texts actually contained such hints, but the Bank's official guidance did. As a result, both the Bank and the government will needlessly look silly when interest rates are cut again on orders from Downing Street, as they were in mid-January. But worse than that, the Bank's whispering campaign will diminish the benefits of the new economic policies adopted since White Wednesday — not only by sabotaging business and financial confidence, but also by stirring up trouble for Mr Major in Europe.

The damage to confidence is obvious. By hinting that interest rates might soon start to rise, instead of falling further, the Bank is threatening the nascent recovery in investment and borrowing. It is also deterring the market from pushing down long-term interest rates and thereby adding to the debt burden on corporate borrowers and the government itself. Even if the people who run the Bank genuinely believed interest rates should be raised to boost the pound (and most of them are just knowledgeable enough to realise that such a manoeuvre would utterly fail at this precarious stage in the economic cycle), they would do well to keep their views to themselves and lay their contingency plans in secret. It is abroad that the Bank's posturing could do greatest harm.

Although the context of this week's speech went almost unreported, the Governor was warning mainly about the threat of protectionism and the need for co-operation on the international stage. The Governor's main point was that devaluation was unacceptable as a way of making industry competitive. He went on to say that a single currency would be a natural consequence of the long-term integration of the single European market. The speech played straight into the hands of the French protectionists whom Mr Major had been trying to fend off with his remark about dumping socialism only two days previously.

The Bank's argument had two clear implications. First, a country that did increase its competitiveness by devaluation — as Britain clearly has — was somewhow abusing the international system. Second, if the quixotic Maastricht project collapsed, France and other protectionist countries would be justified in thwarting the competitive freedoms of the single market.

The idea that devaluation is some kind of beggar-thy-neighbour policy on a par with trade protectionism is based on a misreading of history and a misunderstanding of economics, both of which the Governor repeated in his speech. Devaluation is not a cause of protectionism, but a way of avoiding it. The American Smoot-Hawley tariff of 1930, the British imperial preferences of 1931 and the French and German import quotas of the 1930s were all designed to defend the gold standard. Once Britain went off gold in 1931 and America followed in 1933, protectionist pressures abated. Of course, France and other gold standard countries became even more protectionist, but they could and should have devalued instead. Early devaluation by France would have eroded Britain's competitive advantage, but it would also have produced low interest rates and faster economic growth throughout Europe. Exactly the same would be true today.

Competitive devaluation is not a beggar-thy-neighbour policy, because unlike protectionism it pushes down interest rates around the world and thereby promotes trade. But if the Governor of the Bank of England can't understand that, what hope is there for the farmers of France?

WHAT TO DO WHEN INTEREST RATES LOSE THEIR INTEREST

If you keep most of your money in a building society, falling interest rates will mean a drop in your standard of living.

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Alliance Gas calls for open domestic market

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A CALL for Britain's £5.8 billion-a-year domestic gas market to be opened up to competition has been made in submissions to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission by a leading independent supplier.

Alliance Gas, a joint venture between BP, Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company, and Norsk Hydro, the chemicals group, claims that the average household gas bill of £500 a year could be cut by at least £50.

The request dispels fears that independents would ignore small consumers, and adds muscle to the call from Sir James McKinnon, the gas industry regulator, earlier this week for the domestic market to be opened up.

However, Alliance believes effective competition can be achieved without implementing Sir James' proposal that British Gas's supply activities be broken down into 12 regional companies. Kristoffer Marøe, managing director of Alliance, also rejects British Gas suggestions that consumers furthest from the gas fields might face higher bills if the gas market is liberalised. He says: "We believe that 10 per cent savings will be available to households all over Britain."

The proposals call for independents to be given two years' notice that the household market is to be opened. That would allow them to contract for the necessary gas reserves for the move to full competition phased over five years from 1995. Mr Marøe insists safety and service standards could be maintained or enhanced in a more competitive regime.

Alliance is one of the three largest among about 30 independents that account for about 50 per cent of sales in the firm tariff market, made up of large industrial and commercial companies. The independents are making rapid inroads into the tariff market above 2,500 therms, which was opened to competition last October. Gas from independent suppliers is delivered through British Gas pipelines under contract.

"Over the last three years, we believe that these companies had their gas bills cut by about £100 million," Mr Marøe says. "This is just the beginning." Independent suppliers claim they can undercut British Gas prices 10 to 15 per cent. But, Mr Marøe says, their progress had been obstructed by British Gas, which controls the distribution system and meter reading.

In evidence to the MMC, Alliance protests that only through a complete separation of the British Gas transmission business from its gas marketing activities can independents be sure of even-handed treatment by their dominant rival.

Andrew McAuslan, Alliance's senior commercial analyst, also argues that independents need access to the domestic sector in order to build a balanced portfolio of business.

British Gas's 18 million domestic gas customers account for 55 per cent of total UK gas sales.

Transport workers strike at Ford

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

PRODUCTION of cars at the Ford plant in Dagenham was halted yesterday after 500 transport and support workers began a 24-hour stoppage amid fears that the company is to contract out their work.

A management document leaked to unions, confirmed by the company as genuine, showed the company has drawn up plans to transfer the work of 1,487 British workers to outside contractors. In Germany, the jobs of 1,723 employees would be affected.

A Ford spokesman insisted no decision on contracting out the jobs had yet been taken. However, unions said that the document showed consultations over contracting out, announced two weeks ago, were a sham.

Many of those affected are likely to be re-employed by contractors. However, in their assessment of the industrial relations impact, detailed in the document, Ford managers gave a warning that a strike of two weeks or more was likely because drivers faced job losses and reduced earnings.

The proposals concentrate on contracting out the work of Ford's haulage fleet, which moves components within and between plants, to private companies.

The document says: "A British truck fleet dispute would probably result in the progressive closure of all Ford European manufacturing plants within three days."

Ford has already contracted out provision of power and heat at its Halewood site on Merseyside to BP Energy. Similar changes are now contemplated at other plants.

The company has already announced plans to cut its 33,000 UK workforce by 1,980 this year. A spokesman said some volunteers had come forward, but the company was still 800 short of its target.

Ford is engaged in a wide-ranging review of operations in an effort to restore its profitability and compete more effectively with Japanese manufacturers.



PETER TREVNOR

Deadlock: Robin Biggam, right, and Ron Henderson, finance director, say talks on cost overruns have stopped

BICC drawn

Eurotunnel peace deal withdrawn, says BICC

BY MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

■ Members of the consortium building the Channel tunnel are expected to follow BICC's lead in making further loss provisions on the project

TALKS aimed at settling the dispute between Eurotunnel and the contractors building the Channel Tunnel have ground to a halt after the withdrawal of a peace proposal by Eurotunnel, one of the builders claimed.

Robin Biggam, chairman of BICC, said that no serious discussions were currently taking place between the builders and Eurotunnel over claims for cost overruns on the £8 billion project. BICC owns Balfour Beatty, the contracting group, and has a tenth of TML, the consortium building the tunnel.

According to Mr Biggam, Sir Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's chairman, notified the builders by letter that the deal, which would have paid about £300 million in cash and a similar amount in paper, was no longer on offer.

Not for the first time, however, accounts conflict. A spokeswoman for Eurotunnel said the two sides had met as recently as Tuesday. "Nothing has changed over the last few weeks," she added. "The talks haven't broken down — we had a meeting yesterday and we have plans for another ... regular discussions but no negotiations are taking place."

Mr Biggam said the builders had in any case become increasingly frustrated at the slow progress of negotiations. He emphasised that "total co-operation" would be needed during the commissioning of the tunnel for the eventual opening late this year.

"We need to get that co-operation in order to get a smooth commissioning period for Eurotunnel — it's in their interests rather than ours."

BICC was reporting a fall in pre-tax profits from £81 million to £77 million last year. Profits before interest payments and heavy provisioning were £2 million ahead, at £148 million. BICC is paying a 13.25p final dividend, making a total of 19.25p, up from a figure of 18.58p adjusted for last year's rights issue.

The company is the first of the five builders that form the British half of the consortium to report 1992 figures and has taken a further provision of £8 million to cover involvement in the project, bringing total provisioning on it so far to £20 million.

Balfour Beatty managed to increase profits before interest by £2 million to £40 million, despite the dire state of the building industry, but the European cables business saw a £13 million drop to £78 million. At the property arm, the loss deepened £4 million to £12 million.

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CBI backs workfare for young jobless

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

UNEMPLOYMENT will remain close to 2.5 million for the rest of the decade, according to the Confederation of British Industry. CBI leaders yesterday backed the idea of compelling the young long-term unemployed to earn their benefits by carrying out community-based temporary work.

Details of the Skillfare scheme will be included in a CBI document to be sent to Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary. A scheme linking benefit to community work is expected to be introduced in the Budget this month.

Howard Davies, CBI director general, said publicly for the first time that if young people were not prepared to take up the offer of a place on such a scheme, "we believe there would then be a case for saying that unemployment benefit should be withdrawn". But CBI officials emphasised that they thought most people would be eager to take up a place if the scheme was of sufficient quality, rather than because of the deterrent of losing their benefits.

Based on a paper considered by the CBI council, Mr Davies also confirmed that the CBI now believed unemployment was likely to remain at 2.25 million to 2.5 million for the rest of the decade, even if it fell from its present 3 million-plus level.

Meanwhile, Sir Michael Angus, CBI president, gave warning that British industry risked being damaged by political confusion and uncertainty about the UK's future relationship with the rest of the European Community.

Urging the full ratification of the Maastricht treaty, the CBI published a study of the investment intentions of US and Japanese companies in Britain. CBI leaders claimed the study supported their contention for the treaty to be quickly ratified, but in fact the details of the survey suggest at best a much more lukewarm attitude towards the EC among inward investors.

The survey showed strong support for Britain staying out of the European exchange-rate mechanism, and suggests a large majority of Japanese and US inward investors in Britain believe that failure to ratify Maastricht — or even pull out of the EC altogether — would have either some or no effect, rather than a major impact, on their UK investment levels.

☐ Sir Bryan Nicholson, former chairman of the Post Office, is set to follow Sir Michael as CBI president after being nominated yesterday by the CBI council as his deputy.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Non-executive director appointed at Amstrad

AMSTRAD, as Alan Sugar, the chairman, promised, yesterday appointed one of two non-executive directors and is considering a shortlist of further candidates, the computer group said. The new director is Jeoff Samson, whose business experience includes working for Plessey Company, Standard Telephones and Cables, General Electric Company and Yale and Valor.

Mr Samson is a non-executive director of Moss Bros Group and is the non-executive chairman of Hunterprint. Mr Samson's appointment is for three years. Amstrad shares rose 0.5p to 27p. Last December, when trying to take Amstrad private with a 30p cash offer, Mr Sugar said if his plan failed, the group would make non-executive appointments and later asked ProNed, the independent organisation that searches for non-executives, to propose names.

Brent Chemicals ahead

BRENT Chemicals International staged a strong profits recovery in the year to end-December after its profit setback in 1991, and achieved pre-tax profit of £11.5 million, compared with a restated £5.24 million. The final dividend is maintained at 5.8p a share, making 7.4p (7.34p), which is again covered by net earnings. The 1991 distribution was uncovered. Gross margins rose within the important chemicals division, and there was like-for-like organic growth of 12 per cent in pre-tax profits, Steve Cuthbert, chief executive said.

BWD down to £1.7m

PRE-TAX profits at BWD Securities, the West Yorkshire broker quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, fell from £2.1 million to £1.7 million for the year to end-November 1992. Turnover was marginally up at £10.5 million but an 8 per cent rise in administrative expenses reduced operating profits from £1.4 million to £1.1 million. Part of the decline in taxable profits was because interest receivable fell 18 per cent to £588,000. The final dividend rose from 1.7p to 1.9p, making a total of 3.2p, compared with 3p last time. Earnings slipped to 6.4p a share (7.6p). The shares rose 1p to 67p.

CRH increases payout

CRH, a building materials group based in Dublin, saw pre-tax profits slip by 8 per cent to Ir£57.6 million (£59.1 million) last year, compared with Ir£62.6 million in 1991. Earnings per share fell to Ir16.05p (Ir17.46p). A final dividend of Ir4.5p (4.3p) makes a total of Ir6.75p (6.45p) for the year. Tony Barry, chief executive, said "severe pruning" of costs would help the group to weather another tough year. In Ireland, which accounts for 45 per cent of trading profits, CRH suffered from a slight fall in construction output and from high interest rates. In London, the shares eased 6p to 237p.

BA passenger load falls

BRITISH Airways' scheduled passenger load factor was 63 per cent in February, down 1.8 percentage points on a year earlier. Scheduled revenue passenger kilometres in February rose 5.1 per cent. BA said because last year was a leap year, the rate of underlying traffic growth for February was running about 3 to 4 per cent higher than the headline figure reported. The February results also include services formerly operated by Dan-Air to 15 shorthaul destinations. Excluding these services, traffic growth for BA scheduled services was 3.4 per cent.

Cut-backs boost Radius

SEVERE cost-cutting helped Radius, the computer software supplier, to raise pre-tax profits threefold to £1.2 million, despite difficult trading conditions. Radius is now a smaller company with staff down from 640 in 1991 to 516 and the corporate downsizing has led to a fall in sales from £28 million to £24 million in the year to November. The focus is on software sales to the public sector and the printing industry, where it achieves better margins than in equipment sales, where prices continue to decline. Radius is maintaining the dividend at last year's level of 2.7p.

Linx looks east

LINX Printing Technologies, a maker of ink-jet printing equipment that joined the market in October, is targeting the Pacific region for growth in the first half of this year as European sales remain constrained by the recession. Linx has reported pre-tax profits up from £746,000 to £763,000 for the half-year to end-December and a maiden dividend payment of 0.35p. Derek Harris, chairman, said Japan was its second biggest export market after Germany. A sales slowdown in Britain in the first half had been more than compensated for by increasing activity in southern Europe, he added.

Rolfe buys up BSI

ROLFE & Nolan, the computer software provider, is exercising its option to buy the rest of BSI for $1.6 million. It is paying $465,000 cash plus 327,027 Rolfe shares. Rolfe bought a 19.9 per cent holding in BSI, a privately owned Chicago company providing similar services in the US, in February last year for $500,000 cash. At the same time, it acquired an option to purchase all outstanding BSI shares. Commenting on present trading, Rolfe said that the second half was "likely to show an improved performance over the first half".

Single watchdog planned for life insurance

BY SARAH BAGNALL

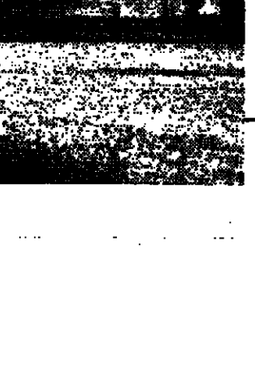
REGULATION of life insurance companies would become the responsibility of the Personal Investment Authority, the proposed new self-regulatory organisation (SRO), Andrew Large, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, said.

Speaking at a conference in London, Mr Large said the PIA would act as "the front line regulator for the sale of life insurance, and life insurance related products". It would have jurisdiction over all types of producer and distributor, and all parties, whether presently covered by Fimbra, by Imro or by the SIB directly.

The industry, which accounts for about half of the £80 billion of annual private savings in the UK, is at present regulated by four SROs, each of which has a separate agenda. According to Mr Large, "there is a lack of confidence in the present set-up". The establishment of the PIA is gaining industry support. Lawrence Churchill, chief executive of National Westminster Life Assurance, said: "We need to unravel the current muddle of SROs. A single SRO for the life industry could form the basis of a retail or private investor division of an all-embracing single regulator."

He added that the role of the SIB should be strengthened and its position as the single regulator confirmed. The PIA was needed, Mr Large said, because the selling process for life products presented hazards for consumers.

Those were highlighted by increasing evidence that unsuitable products were being sold, such as high lapse rates and difficulties surrounding home income plans, under which elderly people borrowed money on the value of their homes to invest in risky bonds.



Large: confidence lacking

European Car of the Year.
1984 Fiat Uno
1985 Opel Kadet
1986 Ford Scorpio
1987 Opel Omega
1988 Peugeot 405
1989 Fiat Tipo
1990 Citroen XM
1992 VW Golf
1993 Nissan Micra

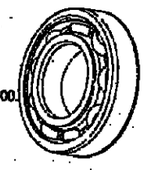
Although the general business outlook is still uncertain, SKF, the world leader in rolling bearings, is strengthening its position in the automotive industry by winning contracts for new car models and penetrating new markets. Innovation, quality and service are among the reasons.
For the anti-lock braking systems now widely used by car manufacturers, SKF have developed bearing hub units with integral wheel speed sensors, so making ABS assembly easier, operation more reliable and the car safer. Further evidence of SKF success as a major automotive supplier is the fact that nine out of the ten last "European Car of the Year" models have all been SKF equipped.
Improvement and development in SKF products, processes and procedures is continuous to the benefit of customers in over 130 countries.

1992 SKF Group Results

SKF's consolidated loss after financial income and expense amounted to –1,777 million Swedish kronor (£–174m) in 1992, compared with a loss of SEK –221m (£–21m) for the preceding year. The result includes an allocation of SEK 1.1 billion (£108m) relating to structural measures that will be implemented during 1993 and 1994. Sales during the year totalled SEK 26,649m (£2,610m) against SEK 26,302m (£2,470m) in 1991. External sales within the Ovako Steel division amounted to SEK 2,277m (£223m). This means that Group sales, excluding Ovako, decreased by 7 percent in 1992 in SEK compared with 1991. During 1991, Ovako's result was reported as an associated company.
The recession, which started in 1990, continued and deepened in 1992. For SKF, this trend meant that efforts to adapt the Group's operations to the declining demand were continued and assigned high priority.

Demand in the European market, which accounts for 60 percent of Group sales, declined steadily and accelerated downwards towards the end of the year. The trend in Germany was particularly weak.
Despite the depressing trend for the European car industry, SKF was able to secure new contracts with initial deliveries of wheel-bearing units equipped with Senseal, a sensor that feeds information to the ABS system, being made.
Conditions in the United States improved during the year. For the second year in a row, SKF increased both its sales and earnings in this market. The seals company, Chicago Rawhide (CR), represents a successful and profitable part of the Group's North American operation.

The Board of Directors proposes that no dividend be paid.



For more information please contact
SKF Group Public Affairs, S 415-50
Goteborg, Sweden. Tel: +46-31-3710 00.

Average rate of exchange for 1992:
1 GBP = 10.21 SEK.

SKF

GRE stuns City with turnround to profit of £3m

BY SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

■ GRE is hoping to grow steadily, mainly in Europe and Asia, after surprising the City with a return to profits. Subsidence, car and household insurance all performed better

GUARDIAN Royal Exchange, the composite insurer, stunned the City yesterday with the announcement that it had returned to profit for the year ended December 1992. The turnround from a £213 million loss to a £3 million profit, the biggest year-on-year improvement the group has ever made, was due primarily to a marked improvement in the UK.

The City was expecting the company, the only composite so far to report a profit for 1992, to make losses of about £30 million. The shares, having intitially advanced 6p, ended the day 1p up at 189p.

The solvency margin rose 8 points to 51 per cent, one of the strongest in the sectors, enabling the company to exploit opportunities to expand parts of its business in 1993.

Sid Hopkins, chief executive, said: "There will be no dash for growth but we will seek opportunities for growth in small packages. First base was to get back to where we are now, that is to eliminate losses. Now we have to get things moving forward again."

During 1993, GRE intends to move into the growing and profitable market of telephone sales of insurance to the public. There were also opportunities to make one or two small acquisitions, he said.

GRE has highlighted Europe as its main growth area, followed by Asia, where £6 million was ploughed in last year to give it 64 per cent of an Indonesian joint venture.

Despite the marked improvement in performance, GRE has maintained the dividend at 7p. James Morley, finance director, said this was because GRE could use the money within the group more efficiently, providing shareholders with a greater return than an increased dividend. However, he added that the company's policy was for a progressive payout.

Worldwide underwriting losses fell from £491 million to £314 million, with losses in the UK, where more than two fifths of the company's income is derived, almost halved to £170 million. Pre-tax losses from the British operations were cut from £177 million to £25 million.

The improvement in the UK underwriting loss was due essentially to reduced losses from private motor car and household lines. The motor underwriting loss fell from £66 million to £17 million while the household business produced a £150,000 profit (£56 million loss). On the UK commercial side, GRE continued to suffer from employer liability cover, which made a £70 million loss (£74 million loss).

During the year, GRE strengthened reserves by £30 million to £35 million, the bulk of which was for employer liability. Mr Hopkins said: "A measure of further strengthening will be necessary this year."

The UK was also helped by lower subsidence claims of £30 million (£50 million) and a halving in normal weather claims to £12 million. Partly offsetting these improvements was a £5 million rise in theft claims.

Investment income rose £28 million to £296 million as a result of GRE's decision to increase its exposure to equities and also because of a three-year put option on the FT-SE index.

Pre-tax losses in Germany fell from £21 million to £18 million on an increased underwriting loss of £385 million (£350 million). American profits advanced £11 million to £18 million, on a breakeven underwriting result. GRE's exposure to hurricane Andrew was limited to £3 million and it had negligible exposure to the Los Angeles riots.

Tempus, page 27



Glittering results: Sid Hopkins, chief executive at GRE, where losses had been expected

Top posts merged at Courtaulds as Hogg resigns

BY GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

SIR Christopher Hogg is to step aside as chairman of Courtaulds Textiles, leaving Martin Taylor, the chief executive, to take up both top jobs. Sir Christopher was an adviser to the Cadbury committee on corporate governance, which recommends splitting the top jobs in British boardrooms.

Yesterday, Sir Christopher said the recommendations were meant to be guidelines. He added: "We note the Cadbury committee's preference for not combining the roles of chairman and chief executive in a single person, but think that in this case it is right to do so, particularly with the appointment of Antony Hichens, a non-executive director, as deputy chairman."

Pippa Wicks, 30, becomes finance director.

Pre-tax profits rose from £20.7 million to £39.1 million last year but the figures have been drawn up in line with the new FRS3 reporting standard. Discontinued operations depress the 1991 comparative figure by £19.2 million. Profit before interest at the continuing operations has fallen from £46.2 million to £42.9 million although the interest charge has fallen from £11.1 million to £6.6 million.

Debts have fallen from 14.1 to 6.7 per cent of shareholders' funds. Courtaulds Textiles says debts during the year may run at much higher levels. But the company is believed to be considering acquisitions on the Continent.

On prospects, Courtaulds Textiles says the pound's devaluation helps it to compete in Britain and that economic growth in North America will help. "The biggest cloud on the horizon is the likelihood of further weakness in consumer expenditure in the major continental European markets."

Earnings per share from continuing businesses rose from 31.5p to 32.9p. The dividend rises 4.6 per cent to 13.6p.

Tempus, page 27

Hartstone to cut jobs and rationalise hosiery

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

THE depressed trading conditions gripping European hosiery markets have forced Hartstone to speed up a substantial rationalisation programme that will cost the hosiery to leathergoods group £8.5 million this year.

Hartstone, meanwhile, denied that it has received a takeover approach. Stephen Barker, chairman, said the group expects to complete the long-term repositioning of its UK hosiery division this month. Steps are also being taken to reduce costs on the Continent.

As a result, the company is cutting 700 jobs, mostly in continental Europe, to reduce the workforce to 2,500. Some of the job cuts may be in the UK, but the Thame, Oxfordshire, company would not say where the losses would occur.

The cost of these actions, including losses incurred in the UK rationalisation, will total some £5 million, all of which will be taken in the current financial year to end-March. "We've got good cash generating businesses," Mr Barker said.

Results for the year will be announced in June. Analysts are looking for current year pre-tax profits to climb to £23.5 million (£22.1 million).

EC acts on steel pipe dumping

EC governments have extended provisional anti-dumping duties on imports of seamless steel pipes and tubes from Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The duties were imposed by the European Commission in November, after the exporting states were found to have sold the steel at unfairly low prices.

The commission said steel tube imports from the four countries totalled 105,000 tonnes in the first nine months of 1992. Their share of a stagnant EC market had increased from 7.8 per cent in 1988 to 13.7 per cent. Germany absorbed 55 per cent of the dumped imports.

Back in black

Trans World Communications, the commercial radio group, made a pre-tax profit of £1.1 million in the year to December 31, compared with a £1.8 million loss last time. Earnings per share were 3.1p (7p loss) and there is a dividend of 0.8p (nil) for the year.

Phoenix bought

South Wales Electricity is paying up to £7.1 million for Phoenix Electrical, one of Britain's largest electrical contracting businesses. Phoenix's contracts include the £2.5 million fitting-out of Embankment Place, above London's Charing Cross station.

Profit share

RTZ, the world's largest mining group, will be accounting for £92 million (£87 million) as its share of 1992 net earnings of Australia's CRA Group. CRA is 49 per cent owned by RTZ, which is due to announce its results for last year on March 11.

Yorkshire up

Profits of Yorkshire Building Society increased by 6 per cent in 1992, to £55.6 million. Mortgage loss provisions rose by half, to £22.8 million, during the year. Assets increased by 16 per cent, to £4.8 billion.

Gas contract

Babcock International, the engineering group, has won an £80 million contract from GEC Alsthom to supply equipment for the Black Point gas power station being built in Hong Kong.

Wool merger

Grampian Holdings is merging Pitlochry Knitwear with Edinburgh Woollen Mill, in return for a 25 per cent stake in the enlarged company.

T Cowie profits rise by a third

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

T COWIE, the motor group, says the strength of vehicle contract hire operations and of its motor interests lie behind the 33.6 per cent increase from £18.2 million to £24.3 million in pre-tax profits earned in the year ended December 31.

Trading conditions during the period were generally difficult, Sir Tom Cowie, chairman, says. However, group turnover advanced from £564.9 million to £605.9 million.

Sir Tom says with the prospect of low interest rates and low inflation in 1993, he is confident of the future adding that Cowie's will continue to expand.

The final dividend rises from 3.375p to 4.25p a share, making 6.25p a share for the year, compared with a total 4.875p a share last time.

Cowie intends to increase the number of motor dealerships and broaden its franchise portfolio. The contract hire operations will also be expanded, the group says, and there will be "judicious acquisition".

The group failed in its £32 million bid for rival motor group Henlys last September. Costs associated with the Henlys bid of £1.22 million have been taken as an exceptional charge against 1992 pre-tax profits, as has a £1.18 million loss on disposal of a quoted investment.

Despite difficult conditions, turnover of the group's motor division was maintained at £316 million, though profits slipped from £6.61 million to £5.48 million. Turnover of the finance division was £245 million (£208.8 million) and its pre-tax profits were £16.6 million (£10.9 million). The finance division benefited from acquisitions made in late 1991 and early 1992, Neil Pykett, managing director of Cowie Interleasing, said.

Grey-Green, the London bus and coach operator, showed a 46 per cent rise in profit to £1.8 million. Each bus and coach route, including 13 routes under contract from London Transport, was profitable. The group expects to take advantage of new opportunities, principally the privatisation of London Buses, in 1993.

Cowies' average tax charge eased from 30 per cent to 25 per cent. Cowie shares rose 14p to 211p.



Sir Tom: confident

Yorkshire Foods to join market

BY OUR CITY EDITOR

MICHAEL Firth, 46, chairman and chief executive of Yorkshire Food Group, will be worth £9 million on paper after the ingredients, beverages and bakery group that he founded with a £3,000 overdraft in 1979 joins the stock market.

Last year, the company made £2.7 million before tax against £1.5 million in 1991, on sales up from £49.3 million to £63.2 million.

He is realising only £750,000 from the placing at 110p a share, and said: "I am not the slightest bit interested in money, I want to grow the business." After the £15 million placing, which raises £11.4 million for the company, Mr Firth will hold 24 per cent of the shares.

Allan Giddings, 52, who joined Mr Firth in 1980, is also taking £750,000 out in the placing but will continue to hold 17.38 per cent. Paul Haley, 34, the finance director, will have a stake of 4.08 per cent, worth £1.5 million, after the flotation.

Mr Firth wants to make acquisitions but the emphasis will be on one or two sizable deals rather than a number of small ones. The group bought Scotia Haven from Berisford International for £11.8 million in 1991, and last July bought Treehouse in California from Berisford for $10.04 million.

This left gearing at 88.22 per cent at the December year-end. This will fall to 27 per cent after the placing.

BICC
1992
results

"Our businesses are well positioned, our finances are sound and our self-confidence remains high. As markets recover, the strengths of the Group should again be reflected in satisfactory earnings growth."

Robin Biggam, Chairman

- Strong cash performance
- Balfour Beatty increases profits and grows core contracting businesses
- Worldwide cable business strengthened by acquisitions in Germany, the USA and Spain
- Some signs of recovery in the USA and Australia
- Provisions for property and the Channel Tunnel
- Dividend maintained

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

	1992	1991
Pre-tax profits*	£126m	£123m
Earnings per share*	20.2p	24.4p†
Dividends per share	19.25p	18.58p†

* pre-exceptional items (property and Channel Tunnel)
† restated for 1992 Rights Issue

BICC Group
ENGINEERING TOMORROW'S WORLD

Tracker Network tunes into car theft

BY OUR CITY STAFF

POLICE in Britain will soon receive a new weapon in the battle against car crime. It is an electronic tracker system in use in seven American states, where it has achieved a 93.8 per cent recovery rate for stolen vehicles.

Police forces throughout the country are reacting to the system, launched in America in 1986, with enthusiasm. The Automobile Association is planning to offer the system for £160 plus an annual charge of £61.10.

Several insurance companies, including Royal, Norwich Union, General Accident, Eagle Star and Sun Alliance, have indicated they would offer motorists discounts of between 7 and 15 per cent of premiums with the tracker system. Some insurers have indicated they will not grant insurance cover for "high theft risk" category vehicles unless they are fitted with the system.

The system works via a tracker unit, installed professionally in up to 30 places. If the vehicle is reported stolen, a telecommunications system, linked to a central computer, transmits a coded radio signal to the tracker unit to trigger its tracking signal.

Police in patrol cars fitted with special computerised radio direction finders pick up the tracking signal and then locate and recover the stolen car.

The tracker units are made by Motorola in the US but production is planned by Motorola in Britain.

The telecommunications system will be operated by National Transcommunications Limited, responsible for all ITV and Channel 4 transmissions, as well as independent local radios and Classic FM. It is hoped to have the transmission system operational by July.

Details of the system and its apparently enthusiastic reception from police and insurance companies are revealed in an official document circulating among leading financial institutions in London and Edinburgh.

A pathfinder prospectus has been issued by Williams de Broë, the broker, which is seeking £7.75 million from financial institutions via a share issue in a new company, Tracker Network plc.

Tracker Network and its offshoot, Stolen Vehicle Recovery Systems, is the brainchild of Ralph Kanter, 55, former marketing director of Thomas Cook, who developed a security company called Britannia in the eighties, later sold to ADT.

Although Tracker Network is projecting sales this year of £4.6 million and expects to make a first-year loss of £6.3 million, Williams de Broë is putting a £13.3 million valuation on the company. Even that may be cautious as Mr Kanter and his fellow directors are forecasting profits of £20 million a year by 1997.

STOCK MARKET

Shares race to another record

SHARE prices on both sides of the Atlantic are being squeezed steadily higher, with stock shortages setting the pace in contrast to genuine retail demand.

News of a 45-point rise in the Dow Jones industrial average overnight on Wall Street provided the backdrop for another record-breaking run in London. Share prices closed at a new all-time high as the FT-SE 100 index ended near its best of the day with a rise of 36.3 at a record 2,918.6 in anticipation of a softening of European interest rates.

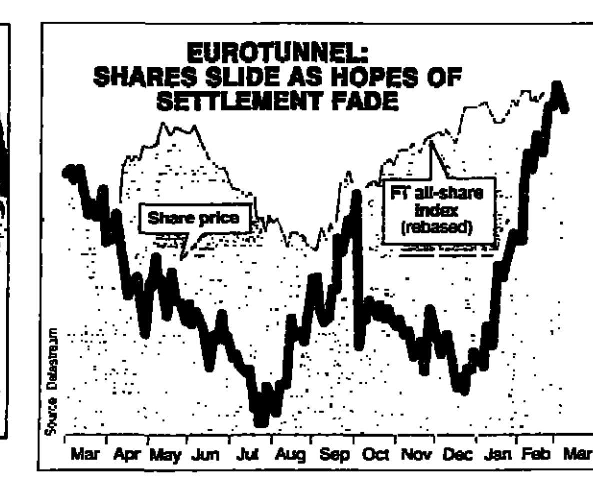
The Bundesbank meets later today with apparent scope for a further cut in German interest rates. But last night traders were expressing scepticism about German willingness to cut, saying it could be another couple of weeks before the Bundesbank acts.

Meanwhile, brokers in London are concerned about the recent performance of the London market. They say it has now begun running ahead of events and believe that a sharp correction may be on the way. The index has risen 100 points in the past eight working days and this has not been justified by the levels of turnover. Last night 710 million shares changed hands, bolstered by a long list of trading news from major companies.

But as the Budget nears, market-makers may attempt to drive prices lower in an attempt to recoup some much needed stock among the leaders. Fears still exist that a number of fund-raising exercises remain in the pipeline. Likely candidates include several companies reporting later today, such as **Williams Holdings**, unchanged at 360p, **Pentos**, down ½p at 50½p, and **Ladbroke**, up 7p at 200p.



Morton: hopes dented



Betterware, the household goods distributor, rose 10p to 250p on a buy note from NatWest Securities. It says the group is achieving extraordinary growth in a low-ticket, low-growth market during recession. Direct selling promises low-risk growth and may enable the group to break the retail mould.

Allied-Lyons, reporting soon, has denied plans to have a rights issue, unless made in connection with an acquisition. But the market remains uncertain. The shares fell 10p to 593p yesterday amid claims that Cazenove, the broker, had cut its profit forecast by £25 million to £600 million, and for next year by a similar amount to £700 million.

United Biscuits is raising £220 million for the disposal of its Terry's chocolate business to Philip Morris, the US food and tobacco group. Analysts had been predicting a price-tag of £200 million for the sale. The shares ran into profit-taking, falling 12p to 380p. **Cadbury Schweppes**, the soft drinks and confectionery group, which had been keeping a close eye on events at UB, recovered some of its poise to finish 9p better at 493p.

HSBC jumped 24p to 624p after Midland Bank revealed a recovery in pre-tax profits during 1992 from £36 million to £178 million, in spite of a rise in exceptional charges from £21 million to £122 million. The group's performance was helped by a drop in provisions for bad and doubtful debts from £903 million to £676 million. HSBC acquired Midland last year. The rest of the banks drew strength from Midland's performance. **Barclays**, reporting today, firmed 1p to 433p, after 445p. **Lloyds**, 9p to 540p, **National Westminster**, 8p to 443p, and **Standard Chartered**, 13p to 692p.

Avesco, the broadcast services group, ran into a bout of profit-taking following a strong run recently, falling by 4p to 59p. Friends Provident continues to own 7 per cent of the shares and Warburg Securities was recently appointed broker. There is talk that a lucrative deal is in the pipeline.

Elsewhere in the financial sector, **Guardian Royal Exchange** firmed 1p to 189p, after touching 194p, following some better than expected trading news. The group unexpectedly returned to the black last year with a pre-tax profit of £3 million compared with a loss of £210 million. The other insurers made headway, with **Commercial Union** climbing 15p to 623p. **General Accident**, which reported earlier this week, adding 15p at 600p, **Sun Alliance**, 7p at 333p and **Royal Insurance** 5p at 300p.

Recent nervousness surrounding the **BICC** share price appears to have been overdone, with full-year figures receiving a warm welcome. The price responded with 16p rise to 361p. Dealers say next stop for the shares should be the 400p level. Pre-tax profits last year fell from £81 million to £77 million but the group was able to raise the final dividend from 12.79p to 13.25p. Exceptional charges of £8 million were made in connection with BICC's involvement with TML, the contracter charged with constructing the Channel Tunnel.

TML is in dispute with Eurotunnel about cost overruns for the project and BICC maintains there is little likelihood of a settlement before the summer. According to Robin Biggam, BICC chairman, talks have ground to a halt. **Eurotunnel** finished 22p lower at 488p. Sir Alastair Morton, chairman, had been hoping that both sides could reach an early agreement on the over-runs which have been overshadowing the share price for some time.

Courtaulds Textiles firmed 3p to 593p after a jump in full-year pre-tax profits from £20.7 million to £39.1 million and news of a boardroom reshuffle. Sir Christopher Hogg, chairman, is standing down and will be replaced by Martin Taylor, chief executive, who will be combining the rolls.

Suter, the mini conglomerate, jumped 10p to 145p as talk circulated that it was on the verge of disposing of its Lake & Elliot subsidiary. Brokers say this would pave the way for Suter to launch a bid for James Wilkes, the engineer, where it has recently acquired an 8 per cent stake. Speculative buying lifted **James Wilkes** a further 3p to 59p.

MICHAEL CLARK

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	Campari ... 279p (+13p)
HSBC ... 624p (+23p)	T Cowie ... 211p (+14p)
Suter ... 145p (+10p)	Perry Group ... 146p (+10p)
Transfer Tech ... 469p (+15p)	FALLS:
Wellcome ... 891p (+11p)	Union Discount ... 105p (-10p)
Whessoe ... 332p (+10p)	Allied Lyons ... 593p (-10p)
Commercial Union .. 623p (+15p)	Unilever ... 1208p (-15p)
General Accident ... 600p (+15p)	Liberty Life ... 963p (-15p)
Lloyds Abbey ... 441p (+11p)	
Refuge ... 948p (+20p)	Closing Prices Page 29

Closing Prices Page 29

RECENT ISSUES

Intl Food Machinery (51)	70	+3	ML Holdings n/p (15)	3½	...
Merlin Intl Green Units	92	+1	MMI n/p (7½)	6½	...
Motor World (210)	270	...	Menvier-Swain n/p (520)	67	...
New City & Com Inv Tst	88	+1	PizzaExpress n/p (40)	37	-1
New City & Com Wts	21	+2	Stonehill Hldgs A n/p (10)	3½	-1½
RIGHTS ISSUES			Trafalgar House n/p (60)	18½	+2
Bellway n/p (320)	52	-1	Triplex Lloyd n/p (140)	29	+1
Bowater Units n/p (440)	79	-2	Volex n/p (345)	53	...
Howden Group n/p (52)	10	+3	Wills Group n/p (16)	5½	+¼
Kingfisher Units n/p (450)	98	...	Yorkshire Chems n/p (330)	46	+3

WORLD MARKETS

Third loss in a row for the Nikkei

☐ **Tokyo** — Shares shed early gains and ended easier after Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp (NTT) shares, the pillar of the market's early surge, stumbled on profit-taking. Concerns over March futures settlement next week and a higher yen also dampened sentiment.

"There was nothing to support the market after NTT and communications-related shares fell prey to profit-taking," said a Big Four brokerage trader.

The Nikkei average ended down 10.33 points at 16,853.92, extending losses for the third consecutive day. Turnover was a modest 240 million shares.

The broader Topix index was down 3.24 points to 1,272.58.

☐ **Hong Kong** — The Hang Seng index reached a 1993 closing high, 11 points off its all-time record, helped by overseas buying and an upbeat annual budget speech forecasting growth of 5.5 per cent for the year. The index ended at 6,436.64, up 92.41 points. The broader All Ordinaries index was 44.86 points higher at 3,417.37.

Shares were encouraged both US institutional buying and the view that Chris Patten, the governor, was showing signs of agreeing to some Chinese conditions for talks on the colony's future. Antony Mak, of Vickers Ballas, said: "There's been strong overseas buying, and the company annual results due soon should be good."

☐ **Frankfurt** — Shares ended near their lows for the day after reaching an over-bought position early in the session, which sparked some profit-taking. The Dax index closed 0.2 per cent lower at 1,693.73.

☐ **Sydney** — The Labour party's rise in the opinion polls gave profit-takers an excuse to sell, dealers said. The All Ordinaries index opened briefly higher, taking its lead from Wall Street overnight, but it soon slumped, falling through the day to close 18.9 points down at 1,626.1.

☐ **Singapore** — The Straits *Times industrial index fell* 0.76 points to finish at 1,652.05. *(Reuter)*

Early headway for Dow

New York — As the market digested Tuesday's 45-point rally and investors hesitated before Friday's unemployment figures, the Dow Jones industrial average edged up 7.03 points to 3,407.56 at midday. Advances led declines ten to seven. Some analysts described the market as flat with no group of stocks taking a clear lead, but others said the very flatness was a good sign, indicating that not much profit-taking was going on. *(Reuter)*

WALL STREET

	Mar 3 midday	Mar 2 close
AMP Inc	57	57
AMR Corp	59	59
Abbott Labs	25	26
Aetna Life	48	48
Ahmanson (HF)	20	20
Air Prod & Chem	43	43
Albertson's	53	54
Alcan Alumnm	18	18
Alco Standard	42	42
Allied Signal	67	65
Alum Co of Am	70	70
Amax	18	18
Amerada Hess	51	52
Amer Brands	34	34
Amer Cyanamid	50	50
Amer El Power	35	35
Amer Express	24	24
Amer Genl Corp	29	29
Amer Home Pr	61	61
Amer Intl	124	122
Amer Stores	39	38
Amer T & T	56	56
Ameritech	75	74
Amoco	56	57
Anheuser-Busch	55	54
Apple Computer	54	54
Archer Daniels	26	26
Arkla	8	8
Armco	7	7
Armstrng Wrld	32	33
Asarco	24	24
Ashland Oil	27	27
Atl Richfield	120	122
Auto Data Pro	53	54
Avery Dennison	26	26
Avon Products	62	61
Baker Hughes	23	23
Baltim Gas & El	26	26
Banc One	53	53
BankAmerica	52	52
Bank of NY	56	55
Bankers Tr NY	69	68
Barnett Banks	46	46
Bausch & Lomb	54	54
Baxter Intl	29	29
Bectn Dicknsn	36	36
Bell Atlantic	56	55
BellSouth	56	56
Black & Decker	18	18
Block (H&R)	38	39
Boeing	34	34
Boise Cascade	23	24
Borden Inc	25	26
Bristol Myrs Sq	58	58
Browning Ferris	27	27
Burlingtn Nthn	48	47
CBS	201	200
CNA Financial	94	94
CPC Intl	49	48
CSX	72	71
Campbell Soup	43	42
Can Pacific	13	13
Cptl Cities ABC	491	490
Cptl Holdings	77	77
Carolina Pwr	32	32
Caterpillar	58	58
Central & SW	33	33
Champion Ind	30	30
Chase Manhat	32	31
Chemical Bk	42	41
Chevron Corp	78	79
Chrysler	39	39
Chubb Corp	91	90
Cigna Corp	61	61
Citicorp	26	26
Clorox	48	47
Coastal Corp	26	26
Coca Cola	43	43
Colgate-Palmolive	63	63
Columbia Gas	23	22
Commonw Ed	27	27
Compaq Comp	43	43
Comp Ass Int	25	24
Conagra	28	28
Cons Edison	35	35
Cons Nat Gas	46	46
Cons Rail	56	54
Cooper Inds	51	50
Corning Inc	33	33
Crown Cork	38	[illegible]
Dana Corp	45	45
Dayton Hudson	75	77
Deere	52	52
Delta Air Lines	49	49
Deluxe Corp	42	42
Detroit Edison	36	36
Digital Equip	47	46
Dillard Dept St	44	43
Disney (Walt)	44	44
Dominion Res	42	42
Donnelley (RR)	29	29
Dover Corp	46	46
Dow Chemicals	58	59
Dow Jones	30	30
Dresser	19	19
Duke Power	38	38
Dun & Bradstreet	57	57
Du Pont	47	46
Eastman Kodak	53	53
Eaton Corp	80	79

	Mar 3 midday	Mar 2 close
Emerson Elec	58	57
Engelhard Corp	40	43
Enron Corp	59	58
Entergy Corp	36	36
Ethyl Corp	27	27
Exxon	64	64
FMC Corp	45	45
FPL Group	38	38
Federal Express	54	54
Fed Nat Mtge	82	81
First Chicago	42	42
First Interstate	53	53
First Union Rlty	11	11
Fleet Finl Grp	34	33
Fluor Corp	44	44
Ford Motor	47	47
GTE Corp	36	36
Gannett	49	49
Gap Inc Del	33	33
Gen Cinema	36	34
Gen Dynamics	117	118
Gen Electric	85	85
Gen Mills	71	70
Gen Motors	37	37
Gen Reinsurance	116	115
Gen Signal	63	64
Genuine Parts	34	34
Georgia Pac	65	65
Gillette	60	60
Glaxo ADR	19	19
Goodrich (BF)	44	44
Goodyear Tire	70	69
Grace (W&R)	38	37
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23	23
Great Wstn Fin	18	17
Halliburton	36	36
Heinz (HJ)	44	44
Hercules	71	70
Hershey Foods	53	54
Hewlett Packard	78	79
Hilton Hotels	47	48
Home Depot	64	64
Homestake	12	12
Honeywell	33	32
Household Intl	65	64
Houston Inds	47	47
Humana	19	19
ITT Corp	78	76
Illinois Tool	74	73
INCO	22	22
Ingersoll Rand	33	34
Inland Steel	21	21
Intel Corp	120	119
IBM	54	54
Intl Flav & Fr	110	110
Intl Paper	64	63
James River Va	19	19
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43	43
K Mart	24	24
Kellogg	65	64
Kerr-McGee	48	47
Kimberly-Clark	56	55
Knight-Ridder	56	57
Lilly (Eli)	52	52
Limited Inc	25	25
LIN Brdcstng	82	83
Lincoln Nat	74	74
Litton	50	50
Liz Claiborne	35	34
Lockheed Corp	58	58
Louisiana Pac	71	70
MCI Commun	41	41
Marriott	25	24
Marsh & McLnn	94	94
Martin Marietta	71	70
Masco Corp	32	32
May Dept St	72	70
Maytag Corp	14	14
McCaw Cellular	35	35
McDonalds	51	51
McDonnell D	55	55
McGraw Hill	59	59
Mead Corp	43	42
Medtronic	79	78
Mellon Bk	61	61
Melville Corp	48	48
Merck Inc	38	38
Merrill Lynch	68	66
Minnesota Mine	105	105
Mobil Corp	68	68
Monsanto	52	52
Morgan (JP)	66	65
Motorola Inc	59	58
Natl Medical	9	9
Natl Semi	11	11
Natl Service Ind	26	27
Navistar Int	2	2
NBD Bancorp	34	34
NY Times A	29	28
Newmont Mng	39	40
Niag Mohawk	22	22
Nike B	75	76
NL Industries	4	5
Nordstrom	33	33
Norfolk Sthrn	64	64
Nthn State Pwr	45	45
Norwest Corp	47	47
Nynex Corp	91	90
Occidental Pet	20	20
Ohio Edison	24	24

	Mar 3 midday	Mar 2 close
Oracle Systems	33	31
Oryx Energy Co	22	22
PNC Financial	32	31
PPG Industries	67	67
Paccar Inc	59	59
Pacificorp	17	18
Pac Enterprises	22	21
Pac Gas & Elec	35	35
Pac Telesis	47	46
Pall Corp	18	17
Panhandle East	22	22
Paramnt Commn	47	48
Parker Hannifin	32	32
Penney (JC)	82	81
Pennzoil	58	58
Pepsico	40	40
Pfizer	60	60
Phelps Dodge	49	49
Philadel Elec	29	29
Philip Morris	67	67
Phillips Pet	29	29
Pitney Bowes	42	41
Polaroid	28	28
Price Co	35	34
Primerica	37	37
Procter & Gmbl	53	53
Pub Serv E & G	33	33
Quaker Oats	69	70
Ralston Purina	51	50
Raychem Corp	44	43
Raytheon	54	54
Reebok Intl	34	34
Reynolds Metals	51	51
Roadway Srvcs	63	62
Rockwell Intl	28	28
Rohm & Haas	57	57
Royal Dutch	85	85
Rubbermaid	33	32
Safeco Corp	64	64
St Paul's Cos	78	78
Salomon Inc	41	40
Santa Fe S Pac	13	13
Sara Lee Corp	30	30
Seecorp	48	48
Schering Plough	58	58
Schlumberger	60	60
Scott Paper	38	38
Seagram	26	26
Sears Roebuck	51	52
Shell Trans	52	52
Sherwin Wlms	32	32
Skyline Corp	22	22
Snap-On-Tools	33	33
Southern Co	41	40
Sthwestern Bell	75	75
Sprint Corp	29	29
Stanley Works	42	42
Sun Company	28	28
Suntrust	46	46
Supervalu	32	33
Syntex Corp	19	19
Sysco Corp	25	25
TRW Inc	58	58
Tandem Comp	13	13
Tandy Corp	25	25
Telecom Corp	2	2
Teledyne	20	20
Temple Inland	49	49
Tenneco	46	46
Texaco	63	64
Texas Inst	57	58
Texas Utilities	45	45
Textron	44	43
Time Warner	36	36
Times-Mirror	32	32
Timken	29	29
Torchmark	60	59
Toys R Us	39	38
Transamerica	48	48
Travelers Corp	27	27
Tribune	52	51
Tyco Labs	46	46
UAL Corp	115	116
UST Inc	27	27
USX Marathon	19	19
Unilever NV	113	114
Union Camp	44	44
Union Carbide	17	17
Union Pacific	60	59
Unisys Corp	12	12
USAIR Group	15	16
USF&G Corp	13	13
US Life	39	39
US West	42	42
United Tech	45	45
Unocal Corp	27	27
Upjohn	28	29
VF Corp	51	51
Wal-Mart Stores	33	34
Warner-Lambert	67	67
Waste Mgmnt Inc	37	36
Wells Fargo	103	102
Westinghouse El	13	13
Weyerhaeuser	43	42
Whirlpool	50	50
Whitman	14	14
Winn Dixie	69	69
Woolworth	29	29
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	33	32
Xerox	84	83

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERNMENT securities attracted selective support amid lingering hopes that the Bundesbank may signal an interest rate cut today.

Prices were marked higher, enabling the Bank to supply tranches of existing stocks. It sold Treasury 7¼ per cent 1998 at £102$^{13}/_{16}$ and Treasury index-linked 2½ per cent 2013 at £128$^{7}/_{16}$, while exhausting supplies of Treasury 9¾ per cent 2002 at £113$^{3}/_{8}$, and Treasury 8¾ per cent 2017.

On the futures market, the June series of the long gilt added nine ticks at £106$^{7}/_{16}$ as only 19,000 contracts were completed.

In the cash market, most of the attention was focused at the longer end, where Treasury 9 per cent 2012 finished 15 ticks better at £106$^{17}/_{32}$. In shorts, Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 saw its lead restricted to £112$^{3}/_{32}$.

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
		SHORTS (under 5 years)				
104	100	Treas 12½% 1993	102	...	12.30	5.67
100	95	Fund 6% 1993	100	...	5.99	5.66
107	103	Treas 13¾% 1993	105	-	13.00	5.54
102	96	Treas 8½% 1994	102	...	8.28	5.46
110	104	Treas 14½% 1994	108	...	13.34	5.45
110	103	Exch 13½% 1994	108	...	12.41	5.55
105	98	Treas 10% 1994	105	-	9.49	5.57
110	103	Exch 12½% 1994	109	...	11.40	5.59
105	98	Treas 9% 1994	105	...	8.54	5.63
111	102	Treas 12% 1995	111	...	10.80	5.75
96	88	Gas 3% 1990-95	96	...	3.11	4.57
109	99	Exch 10¼% 1995	109	...	9.35	5.88
116	106	Treas 12¾% 1995	116	...	10.93	5.97
120	109	Treas 14% 1996	120	...	11.64	6.21
125	113	Treas 15¼% 1996	125	...	12.18	6.35
120	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	119	...	11.07	6.35
111	98	Conv 10% 1996	111	...	8.99	6.51
122	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	122	...	10.84	6.66
113	100	Exch 10½% 1997	113	...	9.27	6.63
108	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	108	...	8.10	6.63
132	117	Exch 15% 1997	131	+	11.37	6.84
112	97	Exch 9¾% 1998	112	+	8.70	6.78
		MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
102	98	Treas 7¼% 1998	102	...	7.14	6.58
100	86	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100	...	6.72	6.47
137	123	Treas 15½% 1998	137	-	11.24	7.12
122	107	Exch 12% 1998	122	+	9.83	7.20
112	97	Treas 9½% 1999	111	-	8.50	6.99
124	109	Exch 12¼% 1999	124	+	9.87	7.25
116	101	Treas 10½% 1999	116	+	8.99	7.09
116	100	Conv 10¼% 1999	116	+	8.82	7.16
110	94	Conv 9% 2000	110	+	8.17	7.10
130	114	Treas 13% 2000	130	+	9.97	7.53
114	99	Treas 10% 2001	114	+	8.73	7.52
129	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	129		10.85	7.22
113	98	Treas 9¾% 2002	113	+	8.59	7.71
52	46	Treas 8pc 2003	52	+	7.81	7.63
115	100	Treas 10% 2003	115	+	8.68	7.83
121	107	Treas 11½% 2001-04	121	+	9.46	7.81
73	59	Fund 3½% 1999-04	73	+	4.73	6.82
111	96	Conv 9½% 2004	111	+	8.53	7.97
111	96	Conv 9½% 2005	111	+	8.53	8.00
130	116	Treas 12½% 2003-05	130	+	9.56	8.13
101	85	Treas 8% 2002-06	100	+	7.93	7.90
124	110	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	124	+	9.43	8.08
103	89	Treas 8½% 2007	103	+	8.23	8.10
138	123	Treas 13½% 2004-08	138	+	9.74	8.13
		LONGS (over 15 years)				
107	93	Treas 9% 2008	107	+	8.40	8.16
98	87	Treas 8% 2009	98	+	8.16	8.20
106	93	Conv 9% 2011	106	+	8.45	8.29
106	93	Treas 9% 2012	106	+	8.45	8.31
79	67	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75	+	7.33	8.04
95	81	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	95	+	8.10	8.16
133	118	Exch 12% 2013-17	133	+	8.97	8.50
103	91	Treas 8¾% 2017	103	+	8.94	8.38
		UNDATED				
47	39	Consols 4%	47	+	8.51	...
41	35	War Ln 3½%	41	-	8.43	...
63	59	Conv 3½%	62	-	5.59	...
30	24	Consols 2½%	30	+	8.10	...
29	24	Treas 2½%	29	+	8.39	...
		INDEX-LINKED				
133	122	Treas IL 2% 1994	132	+	...	0.73
197	176	Treas IL 2% 1996	196	-	1.44	2.18
108	100	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108	+	1.98	2.55
165	139	Treas IL 2½% 2001	165	..	2.64	2.98
161	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	161	...	2.81	3.09
110	101	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	110	...	2.92	3.19
167	137	Treas IL 2% 2006	167	...	3.02	3.24
151	126	Treas IL 2½% 2009	151	...	3.22	3.41
156	129	Treas IL 2½% 2011	156	...	3.29	3.47
128	106	Treas IL 2½% 2013	128	...	3.35	3.52
136	112	Treas IL 2½% 2016	136	...	3.43	3.58
130	107	Treas IL 2½% 2020	130	...	3.49	3.63
108	88	Treas IL 2½% 2024	108	...	3.53	3.65
108	91	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	108	...	3.54	3.67

COMPANY BRIEFS

GENT (S.R.) (Fin)
Pre-tax: £986,000
EPS: 1.5p (1p)
Div: 0.75p (0.75p)
Profit last time was £672,000. Turnover fell to £59.8m from £67.8m but operating profits rose to £2.44m from just under £2m

GROSVENOR D CAP (Fin)
Pre-tax: £272,000
EPS: 4.52p (2.83p)
Div: 1p (0.95p)
Profit last time was £287,000. Net asset value rose from 130p a share to 147.2p. Cash and liquid assets slipped to £7.4m

METAL BULLETIN (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.9m (£1.7m)
EPS: 13.8p (12.5p)
Div: 5.3p, mkg 8p
Total dividend last time was 7.4p. Year-end cash holdings were £4.5m. Weaker pound will benefit group's international business

SAVAGE GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.04m
EPS: 0.7p (0.3p loss)
Div: 0.25p (Nil)
Interim profits last time were £676,000. Company announced acquisition of Strongbeam for £900,000, funded via a placing

TRITON EUROPE (Int)
Pre-tax: £18,000
EPS: 0.07p (3.17p)
Div: Nil (nil)
Profits slipped from £2.8m last time and included a foreign exchange gain of £868,000. Decline arises from lower oil output

STAT-PLUS GP (Fin)
Pre-tax: £3.6m (£4.8m)
EPS: 11.3p (15p)
Div: 4.44p, mkg 8p
Turnover was almost unchanged at £11.4m, against £11.6m, but operating profits fell to £2.28m from £3.2m

THE TIMES
BUSINESS TO BUSINESS
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S.R.GENT PLC

	Half year to 31 Dec 1992	Half year to 31 Dec 1991
Turnover	£59.8m	£67.8m
Pre-tax Profit	£1.0m	£0.7m
Taxation	£0.4m	£0.3m
Earnings per share	1.5p	1.0p
Dividends per share	0.75p	0.75p

★ Operating profit improved by focusing on higher margin products. This resulted in a drop in sales which is expected to be recovered in the current period.
★ Retail operation became fully owned and stores relaunched as "Susan Woolf".
★ Mr. Michael Stakol was appointed Group Chief Executive.
★ Dividend declared at 0.75p net per share (1991/92 0.75p net per share).
★ Board expects the Group to continue to make progress.

Peter Wolff
Chairman

The summarised results for the half year to 31 December 1992, which are unaudited, have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies adopted in the accounts for the year to 30 June 1992.

The contents of this advertisement, for which the directors of S.R. Gent plc are solely responsible, have been approved for the purposes of the Financial Services Act 1986 by Price Waterhouse who are authorised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales to carry on investment business. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

BELLING & CO LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 12 February 1993 we, David Julian Buchler of Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF and Christopher Morris of Touche Ross & Co., PO 810, Friary Court, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2NP were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above-named company by the members and creditors.
NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 12 April 1993, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and description, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned David Julian Buchler, of Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
David Julian Buchler
Joint Liquidator

Company Number 2331098
Members Voluntary Winding Up
Notice of Intended Distribution
ROSEHAUGH SC LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidators of the above named company intend making a distribution to creditors. The creditors of the company are required, on or before 25th March 1993 to prove their debts by sending to the undersigned T R Harris and C J Hughes of Coopers & Lybrand, St Andrew's House, 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY, the Liquidators of the company written statements of the amounts they claim to be due to them from the company, and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary or other evidence as may appear to the Liquidators to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved his debt before the date mentioned above is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it, the intended distribution mentioned above or any other distribution before his debt is proved.
Dated 26 2 93
T R Harris, Joint Liquidator

Company Number: 1770756
NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO SEND CLAIMS
1 AMERICA SQUARE BUILDERS LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named company are required on or before 26 March 1993 to send in writing their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to T R Harris and C J Hughes, both of COOPERS & LYBRAND, St Andrew's House, 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY, the joint liquidators of the said company and, if so required by notice in writing from the said liquidators, or by their solicitors, or personally, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
DATED 26 2 93
T R Harris, Joint Liquidator

Company No. 2649011
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
TEXLAND LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at The Master Brewer Hotel, Western Avenue A40, Hillingdon Circus, Middlesex UB10 9NX at 11.30 o'clock in the fore noon on the 10th day of March 1993 for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Information concerning the affairs of the Company may be obtained from Mr I Holland (Licensed Insolvency Practitioner) at Messrs Pilman Cohen, Great Central House, Station Approach, South Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 6JA (Ref: IDH)
DATED this 26th day of February 1993
By Order of the Board
S SHEAMAR Director

Company Number: 1770766
1 AMERICA SQUARE BUILDERS LIMITED
Special and Ordinary Resolutions
At an extraordinary general meeting of the Company held at the offices of Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS on 26 February 1993, the following Special and Ordinary Resolutions were duly passed:-
SPECIAL RESOLUTION
THAT the Company be wound up voluntarily.
ORDINARY RESOLUTION
THAT Christopher John Hughes and Timothy Richard Harris of Coopers & Lybrand, St Andrew's House, 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY be and are hereby appointed joint liquidators for the purposes of the aforesaid winding up and any act required or authorised under any enactment to be done by the liquidator is to be done by all or any one or more of the persons for the time being holding that office.
H. NAKAJIMA, CHAIRMAN.

Company Number 2331098
ROSEHAUGH SC LIMITED
Special and Ordinary Resolutions
At an extraordinary general meeting of the Company held at the office of Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank, DKB House, 24 King William Street, London EC4R 9DB on 25 February 1993 the following Special and Ordinary Resolutions were duly passed.
SPECIAL RESOLUTION
THAT the Company be wound up voluntarily
ORDINARY RESOLUTION
THAT Christopher John Hughes and Timothy Richard Harris of Coopers & Lybrand, St Andrew's House, 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY be and are hereby appointed joint liquidators for the purposes of the aforesaid winding-up and any act required or authorised under any enactment to be done by the liquidator is to be done by all or any one or more of the persons for the time being holding that office.
D A LOMAS, CHAIRMAN

FRUIT AND FLOWER FORUM LIMITED
Registered number: 1201727
Nature of business: Flower salesmen and commission agents. Trade classification: 22. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 22 February 1993. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: National Westminster Bank Plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: PR Copp and AP Supperstone (office holder nos: 1788 and 2703). Address: Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA

Goddard & Phillips Limited
In Administrative Receivership
Registered Number: 387283
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA on 10 March 1993 at 14.00 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, not later than 12.00 hrs on 9 March 1993 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
R Hocking
Joint Administrative Receiver

GROSVENOR COURT LIMITED
T/A THE SCHREIBER CENTRE
The Insolvency Act 1986
This is to certify that a meeting of the Creditors and Contributories of the above-named Company held on Friday 26th February 1993 James Taylor of Messrs Taylor Gotham, Warren House, 10/20 Main Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4RY having provided written statement that he is qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above-named Company under the provisions of the Insolvency Act 1986 and that he consent so to act, was appointed liquidator of the Company.
Dated the 26th February 1993
R D Buckley, Chairman

IN THE MATTER OF BROWN GOLDIE & CO LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that Stephen James Lister Adamson and Gareth Howard Hughes of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU were appointed liquidators of the above company by the members on 19 February 1993.
Dated this 19th of February 1993
SJL Adamson, Joint Liquidator.

LECK GROUP LIMITED
(Formerly PETROLEUM OPTIONS (1925) LIMITED)
MISSING SHAREHOLDERS
LECK GROUP LIMITED, which was formerly called PETROLEUM OPTIONS (1925) LIMITED, ("the Company") has numerous Shareholders who have for many years apparently not received communications from the Company addressed to them and whom the Company has not been able to trace.
In order to enable the Company to resolve this unsatisfactory situation, on the 12th December 1991 the Shareholders of the Company approved a Resolution adopting a new Article which provides inter alia, that once the Company has taken the steps outlined in the new Article, the Company may declare a shareholder as a "missing member" and then arrange for that Shareholder's shares to be purchased at the fair value thereof as determined by the Company's Auditors.
Pursuant to Clause 140(iii) of the new Article, the Company sent a Notice (a "Shareholder's Notice") on the 10th November 1992 to all Shareholders whom the Company had not previously been able to trace requiring them to communicate in writing with the Company within six weeks thereof notifying the Company of their present address.
This advertisement has been placed by the Company pursuant to Article 140(iv) and serves to give notice of the Company's intention to arrange for the sale of the shares in the Company held by Shareholders to whom a Shareholder's Notice was sent.
If you are a registered Shareholder of the Company or a person entitled to shares in the capital of the Company by transmission and have received a Shareholder's Notice or believe that a Shareholder's Notice may have been sent to you by the Company, please write immediately to the Company at the below address or telephone the Company on 061 928 8411 to advise of your present address. If you fail to do so, the Company may at any time after one month from today's date arrange for the sale of your shares in the Company as mentioned above.
In the event that your shares in the Company are sold, the net proceeds of sale can subsequently be claimed from the Company.
By Order of the Board
V. Barker
Chief Executive
Leck Group Limited
Dated 4th March 1993
Leck Group Limited,
80 Deansgate Lane
Timperley, Altrincham
Cheshire, WA14 1SP

Notice of Meetings in Administration Proceedings
FUTURE WORLD COMPUTERS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of creditors in the above matter is to be held at Moat House Hotel, High Street, Bedford on the Tenth day of March 1993 at 11.00 am to consider my proposals under s 25(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 and to consider establishing a committee of creditors.
A proxy form is enclosed which should be completed and returned to me by the date of the meeting if you cannot attend the meeting and wish to be represented. In order to be entitled to vote at the meeting you must give to me, not later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of your claim.
PR Hamblin, Administrator
A copy of my proposals may be obtained from Pannell Kerr Forster, Pannell House, 159 Charles St, Leicester LE1 1LD

Notice of Appointment of Sole Liquidator and Notice to Creditors to Claim
A D H STEEL COMPANY LIMITED
Principal Trading Address: 2 Queen Elizabeth Square, South Woodham Ferrers, Essex
Company Number: 2458853
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 16 February 1993 Roger Powdrill/David Morgan was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).
Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference NDN/GXH
Touche Ross & Co.,
63 High Street, Crawley,
West Sussex RH10 1BQ.

Notice of Appointment of Sole Liquidator and Notice to Creditors to Claim
Switchgear Specialists Limited
Principal Trading Address: Unit 3, Brazil Close, Beddington Farm Road, Croydon, Surrey
Company Number: 1016385
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 22 February 1993 R A Powdrill was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).
Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference GRH/LCE
Touche Ross & Co.,
63 High Street, Crawley,
West Sussex RH10 1BQ

Notice of Appointment of Sole Liquidator and Notice to Creditors to Claim
Industrolite Limited
Principal Trading Address: Unit 3, Brazil Close, Beddington Farm Road, Croydon, Surrey
Company Number: 612281
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 22 February 1993 R A Powdrill was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).
Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference GRH/LCE
Touche Ross & Co.,
63 High Street, Crawley,
West Sussex RH10 1BQ

Re HAN SHAN TANG LIMITED
Re BAMBOO PUBLISHING LTD
Re ASTGY REALISATIONS LTD, (Formerly St. George's Gallery Books Ltd)
(All in Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that Meetings of the Unsecured Creditors of the above named companies will be held at 805 Salisbury House, 31 Finsbury Circus, London, EC2M 5SQ on the 17 March 1993, at 10.00am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm respectively for the purposes of having laid before them a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meetings may, if it thinks fit, establish a creditors' committee to exercise the functions conferred on, by, or under the Act.
Creditors are only entitled to vote if:
(a) they have delivered to the address shown above, no later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the meetings written details of the debts they claim to be due, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986 and,
(b) there has been lodged any proxy which the creditor intends to use on his behalf.
Dated this day of 2 March 1993
G. Jones and P.B. Harrington,
Joint Administrative Receivers

The Insolvency Act 1986
B W KNIGHTS AND SONS LTD
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington of Poppleton & Appleby, 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 11th February and 24th February 1993 respectively.
Dated this 25th day of February 1993.
M R Dorrington, Liquidator

Selgoge Realisations Ltd
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Gallery Hotel, 8-10 Queensbury Place, London SW7 2EA on 6 April 1993 at 12 Noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.
Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at the registered office: New Garden House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JA, not later than 12 noon on 5 April 1993.
For the purposes of voting, a secured creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge at New Garden House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JA, before the meeting a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.
Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at New Garden House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JA, between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
By Order of the Board
Anthony Garner, Director.

SINGH ASSOCIATES LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
On 20 January 1993 the company was placed into members voluntary liquidation and Peter S Dunn of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at the above address, by 2 April 1993 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated 24th February 1993
Peter S Dunn, Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
G. GOLDRICK (CABLE CONTRACTORS) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 23rd March 1993 at The Old Bakery, 1 Lower Gower Road, Royston, Herts at 3.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA, of 4, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN, is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 1st day of March 1993
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
G. GOLDRICK, DIRECTOR.

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 6.124(1)
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE
LEON ISRAEL
High Court No. 6352 of 1992
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, Melvyn Laurence Rose FCA of Messrs Elliot Woolfe & Rose, Ludgra House, 263 Kingsbury Road, London NW9 0BS was appointed Trustee of LEON ISRAEL on 26 November 1992.
Any Creditor who wishes to prove a claim in the Bankruptcy, is required to send me notice of their claim in writing to the above address, to arrive no later than 15 April 1993, else their claim will be excluded from any dividend which may be declared in the Estate.
Dated this 25 day of February 1993
Melvyn L Rose, Trustee

Tweedie keeps standard flying in face of City onslaught

Accountancy's golden boy has fallen out of favour because of his stand over how accounts should be presented, Sarah Bagnall finds



From back slapping to head shaking: David Tweedie of the ASB

The honeymoon is over. David Tweedie, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, is no longer doing a good job, the City shouts. This is a remarkedly sharp turnround. Not so many months ago, when Mr Tweedie set out on his formidable task of overhauling company accounts, there was much back slapping and warm handshaking. Now the mood is decidedly different, and Mr Tweedie is facing an ever growing barrage of complaints.

For years, myriad different parties, including stockbrokers, institutional and small investors, have agreed that a radical transformation in accounting is vital.

The ability of management to dress up their figures to show a thriving business has been far too easy in the past. And while report and accounts provide most, if not all, the information desired, the trick is knowing where. Details crucial to understanding the state of a company's financial health are too often tucked away in the notes to accounts.

As a result, small and unsophisticated investors have often been caught out. Polly Peck International, the fresh fruits to engineering company, collapsed leaving a mass of small shareholders out of pocket and triggered outrage over its use of clever accounting policies to fudge the true picture of its financial strength.

Despite the furore caused by such collapses, the City is lambasting the accountancy profession's attempts to overhaul accounting rules. The Accounting Standards Board is painstakingly trawling through the quagmire of accounting, tackling thorny issues such as off-balance sheet financing and the distinction between debt and equity. Invariably, the effect is greater and more relevant disclosure.

The face of the profit and loss account has been transformed with financial reporting standard 3 (FRS3), the oft-criticised source and applications of funds statement has been replaced with FRS1 (cash flow statement) and FRS2, a new standard on consolidated accounts has dealt with subsidiary undertakings. Furthermore, there are exposure drafts out on complex financial instruments and off-balance sheet funding, with more in the pipeline.

However, two of the Accounting Standards Board's new standards have come under fire. FRS3 has been attacked for making earnings per share more volatile so that investors can no longer compare companies by reference to the earning per share or price-earnings ratio. That was exactly the standard's intention.

The over-emphasis on earnings per share has long been a bugbear of Mr Tweedie, and the standard was designed to force investors to look at earnings per share in conjunction with the company's results as a whole. James Capel and Hoare Govett, two leading City stockbrokers, are among the most vitriolic critics. They have bemoaned the death of the old earnings per share and expressed concern about the volatility the new one will exhibit. In a circular, *Tweedie: Descent Into Chaos?*, Hoare Govett claims that FRS3 is a recipe for disaster because it will result in an "earnings Babel with the accounting authorities, companies, broking firms and institutions all advancing varying interpretations of earnings". James Capel's note, *Accounting Matters*, which updates earlier research, draws a similar conclusion, stating that attempts to unwind the volatility in earnings per share prompted by the standard "seems likely to lead to a profusion of alternatives".

> For too long, some of the less able have judged a company solely by its earnings per share growth

Members of the accountancy profession are not surprised by the City's response. For too long, they say, some of the less able brethren in the stockbroking fraternity have judged a company solely by its earnings per share growth. And now Mr Tweedie has taken away their candy.

Furthermore, most of the moaners are big supporters of Mr Tweedie's cleaning up campaign only when the broom is elsewhere. As soon as it looms near their dirt pile the support turns quickly to criticism. The new rules mean more work for analysts of accounts. But this is the trade mark of Mr Tweedie, who prefers to include everything in the accounts, leaving users to pick the bits they consider relevant rather than giving management the freedom to present the picture they want. FRS3 also breaks down the profit and loss into chunks enabling brokers to calculate a figure from which they can measure management accountability. And, while some concerns appear valid, there is little ground for the level of condemnation the Accounting Standards Board is receiving for its reforms.

There will be a period of confusion as some companies opt to adopt standards early, while others do not, with the effect of making comparisons difficult. Of the early adopters, BOC and Grand Metropolitan strip out *exceptionals in calculating operating* profit, while Hanson excludes disposal profits but not exceptional closure costs.

The grumblings over the Accounting Standards Board's first standard FRS1 on cash flow statements centres on the fear that it may present an inaccurate picture of a company's liquidity.

A survey last year, by the Association of Corporate Treasurers, expressed concerns that cash flow statements can be misleading. The main problem is the definition of cash and cash equivalents, which treasurers say does not take a broad commercial view of what cash is in the way a big corporate treasury manages its treasury portfolio.

For example, under the rules Hanson reported a cash inflow of £3 billion in its 1991 accounts, which the company said was because of a movement in funds to deposits of more than three months from deposits of less than three months.

Earlier this month, the Accounting Standards Board provoked the wrath of the banking sector with the publication of its exposure draft on off-balance sheet finance. The banks are displeased with the proposal on securitisation, which if adopted in its present form will result in various types of securitisation being on the face of the balance sheet. The main upset for the banks is that it kills their plans to secure credit card receivables. The Accounting Standards Board is set to face a barrage of complaints from the banks, some of which have indicated they intend to use their significant muscle to lobby for a change in the proposal.

The Accounting Standards Board is not, however, waiting for the City to get to grips with its existing standards and exposure drafts before it unleashes its next round of proposed accounting changes.

In the next two months, the board is due to reveal its thinking on acquisition accounting, provisions and goodwill. None of which is expected to be greeted with huge enthusiasm.

Nor is Mr Tweedie weakening in his stated intention of letting two years pass before any standard is amended. That way, he says, any problems that are merely wrinkles will have time to be ironed out, while any serious problems will have time to emerge and any changes can, therefore, be done in one fell swoop.

As a result, the Accounting Standards Board has not locked the door to the critics — only shut it while it digests the remarks. And as Mr Tweedie says, changes may well be made in due course.

The hope is, however, that most of the whining is the result of a typical resistance to change and the fact that the changes require users of accounts to do more work before they form an opinion on a company's financial health.

Accountancy, page 31

TEMPUS

Caution is the keynote

SPRING is in the air. That is the forecast according to the Treasury, and even some private economists, who believe that after several false dawns real economic recovery is finally under way.

There is a host of positive signals. The stock market has soared to record levels, activity on the high street and the garage forecourt is rising, order books are at their fattest in nearly three years, sales of new homes have surged and the M0 money supply figures are ahead of target.

The evidence sounds overwhelming, but some of these indicators are not as clear-cut as they first appear.

There are technical reasons for some of the stock market's buoyancy, in particular low trading volumes that have exaggerated any buying activity and pushed prices up. The rise in retail and car sales has been fuelled partly by substantial discounting. House prices are still falling despite the increase in transactions, and will probably continue to do so for much of the year until the overcapacity in supply is corrected. This will not improve the financial situation of the 1.5 million homeowners in the negative equity trap. Many of these new homes will have been bought with the £750 million given by the government to housing associations. The M0 figures are encouraging, but the rise in the broader M4 continues to slow.

We are certainly through the worst but are not out of the woods just yet. The slowdown in Europe will hinder export growth despite the competitiveness of UK goods since the pound's devaluation. Unemployment, forecast to top 3.5 million by the end of the year, will also temper recovery by acting as a brake on growth in consumer confidence.

Cautious, rather than unguarded, optimism is recommended.

Midland Bank

MIDLAND Bank's results are good news for HSBC shareholders. They will see a turnaround in the Midland's profits from £36 million in the year before the merger to £331 million in 1992.

Although Midland reported pre-tax profits of £178 million, HSBC has already established £200 million reserves which will absorb Midland's £122 million exceptional restructuring costs and a £31 million fall in property values.

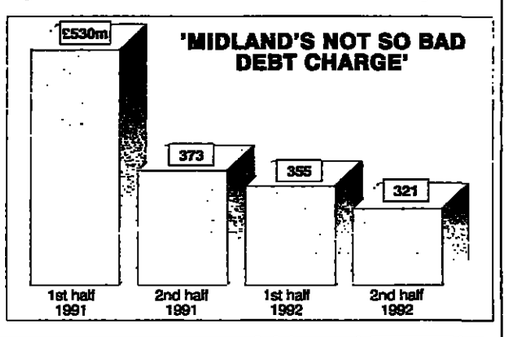
But although Brian Pearse pointed to glimmers of light in the UK economy, there was no real comfort in terms of outlook for the current year.

The total bad debt charge came down by 25 per cent to £676 million, but the figure was helped by the write back of Third World debt provisions. Underlying provisions were worse than expected, with the second half showing a deterioration.

Second half commercial banking provisions, at £336 million, were £30 million higher than the first half figure and not far off the £340 million provisions in the second half of 1991.

HSBC shareholders will be unable to feel confident until Midland demonstrates that its basic branch banking business is improving.

Yesterday's figures gave no cause for celebration yet.



BICC

ROBIN Biggam, chairman of BICC, says that the 1992 figures bear an uncanny resemblance to those for 1991, down to the level of pre-interest profits, just £2 million adrift, and provisions, even closer and only £1 million apart. All true; but a bit hard on any shareholders who put £154 million the company's way in May, only to lose their nerve and sell out by October once BICC had plummeted to almost 80p below the rights issue price.

The shares have since recovered to where they were, the company's cable and construction base making it one of the clearest plays on any economic upturn, and that recovery was helped by another 21p jump to 366p on yesterday's figures.

Whether 1993 will be yet another action replay depends on the health of the British property market and the consequent need for further provisioning. Without further write-offs, BICC's profits before tax will not have to struggle to top £120 million this year, particularly if America benefits from a Clinton-inspired upsurge in construction and new competition in the Australian telecoms market sparks increased orders. Strong cash generation last year suggests the dividend and consequent 7 per cent yield are safe, but a forward multiple approaching 20 puts a severe brake on any further outperformance.

Courtaulds Textiles

Following the Cadbury Committee's recommendations on corporate governance, many companies have found themselves under public pressure to split the roles of chairman and chief executive. It is therefore ironic to find an adviser to that committee passing his mantle as chairman on to the encumbent chief executive.

But that is precisely what Sir Christopher Hogg of Courtaulds Textiles has done. His successor, Martin Taylor, is clearly an able operator, well qualified for the job, as yesterday's respectable results demonstrate. However, the decision still hands the company's competitors, and potential critics, ammunition on a plate. It has also raised speculation that this is the first step towards the relinquishing of the chief executive role by Mr Taylor.

It is a pity — these are unnecessary distractions that Courtaulds could have avoided.

Food

United Biscuits' sale to Kraft of Terry's confectionery covers the cost of recent acquisitions and creates scope for more, especially in biscuits and snacks. Now is a good time to strike because food manufacturers are feeling the crunch between rising costs of raw ingredients and aggressive retailers.

Yorkshire Food believes this and will look for deals in a sector that is overtraded and undermanaged. The City likes the look of Yorkshire, but will judge the group entirely on its first deal.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Curtain call for a scene stealer

ASTON Martin stole the Geneva Motor Show with its slick new DB7, but life in the fast lane has proved troublesome for the car company's new public relations whiz. Harry Calton, a recent recruit from Ford, arrived in Geneva on Monday only to have his car broken into in the hotel car park. But worse was to follow. When he went to the convention centre to make sure the DB7 was covered up and ready for its gala unveiling, he discovered, to his horror, that someone had stolen the surrounding curtain. Calton spent the rest of the day trying to track it down, recovering the missing curtain just in time to unveil the new car on Tuesday to general agreement that it was the best-looking model at the show.

Busy life of Bryan

SIR Bryan Nicholson is used to being put in the industrial hotseat as a regular participant on the BBC's *Question Time*. The former Post Office chairman and chief executive, who already commutes between many chairmanships and non-executive directorships, yesterday added one more duty to his long list. He takes over as deputy president of the Confederation of British Industry after ratification at the annual meeting on May 19, and will succeed Sir Michael Angus as CBI president in May, 1994 for a two-year term. Chairman of Bupa and Varity Holdings, the holding company for Massey Ferguson and Perkins, and a non-executive director of GKN, the engineering company, Sir Bryan recently led the CBI's task force on educational and vocational training. "In the 21st century, business and economic success will depend on the skills and talent of British people. It's brain and not brawn," says Sir Bryan, who is also chairman of the National Council for Vocational Qualification and a former Manpower Services Commission chairman. Sir Bryan, 60, who has also worked in marketing at Unilever and Remington, says he wants the CBI to better bridge the divide between manufacturing and service sectors. "We need a much better balance and throughout my career I've had a foot in both," he said.

Spot of bother

SPOTTING talented equity analysts seems to be causing a few City brokerages some grief. Panmure Gordon has interviewed more than 40 potential heads of investment research following the retirement in January of Eric de Bellaigue, who doubled as the doyen of paper and publishing analysts. Anthony de Larrinagu, from Gilbert Eliott, took over de Bellaigue's publishing specialism, but Michael Cunnane, Panmure's head of sales, has found himself doubling as an interim head of research. Panmure, which has hired several headhunting firms, apparently believes the appointment is too important to give to just anybody.

THE Prudential Insurance Company of America seems a bit publicity shy. Clearly not wanting to alert too many business section newspaper readers to its acquisition late last month of MIM Property Services, a London property advisory firm, the US company sent out a press release marked "confidential". Perhaps that's why editors ignored the important news.

The 'son' also rises

FEW within the walls of the Square Mile would have suspected that Martin Taylor — now poised to take over the chairmanship of Courtaulds Textiles in addition to his duties as chief executive — is the "adopted son" of Sir Christopher Hogg, who steps down as chairman in May. Clearly that's why *The Evening Standard*'s City pages opted to print the following newsworthy headline about apparent corporate nepotism: "Hogg to make way for son". What a pity then to learn that the reporter really meant protégé when he described Taylor as Sir Christopher's adopted son. Unfortunately, the *Standard* failed to adopt the necessary inverted commas.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK



BUSINESS LETTERS

Exporters need more government support to avoid liquidations

From Mr Colin Dawson

Sir, The comments made by Mr Brian Pearse, Midland Bank's chief executive, as reported on the front page by Patricia Tehan on February 26, are encouraging, coming from a leading banker. Mr Irvin's letter in the same issue is also full of common sense.

Unfortunately, there is little sign of common sense entering government circles.

There are some signs that the government may be realising that the manufacturing industry is after all important and the country cannot survive on service industries and banking alone. Unless urgent action is taken soon, another 20 per cent of the country's manufacturing base is bound to disappear.

Many good companies with healthy order books will be forced into liquidation at an increasing rate as the country recovers from recession, as it surely must.

Take my own case, for example, designing, manufacturing, importing and exporting specialised machine tools.

At the start of the Gulf war, we had goods to the value of £150,000 ready for shipment at the dockside.

The government froze all Iraqi credits and therefore we were unable to ship the equipment. This was a severe loss, as we were unable to resell the equipment immediately, and it naturally caused us cash flow problems, but we were able to survive it. It took two years to sell all this equipment elsewhere at reduced prices. Many firms we were dealing with who specialised in exporting to Iraq were forced into liquidation. There was no help from the government.

By hard work and high investment in travelling and exhibiting abroad, we have increased our turnover by 30 per cent based on 1991-2 figures which were in themselves quite good, but we have had to reorganise our operation in order to cut costs substantially, and our capital reserves have dwindled.

We have large orders now from Iran, but as it is known, that country is running out of foreign currency and these payments are being delayed for an indeterminate period. ECGD is useless as it will only insure business with "safe" countries and for those we do not need insurance, so we have always taken our own risks and in this way have lost very little indeed during the last 30 years.

Of course our European competitors receive a very useful support from their governments which allows them to sell to Iran on 360-day Usance Letters of Credit, which we have to refuse.

We are supporting the country by exporting 70 per cent of our turnover, but by failing to provide satisfactory insurance and support, the government's support is totally inadequate.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN DAWSON,
Managing Director,
Whitelegg Machines Ltd,
Tanners Meadow,
Bockham,
Betchworth,
Surrey.

No exceptions for Lloyds staff

From Mr M.J. Daniels

Sir, Your announcement of Lloyds Bank's £801 million profits overlooks the part played by the bank's hitherto most valuable asset — its staff. As a Lloyds employee, I too have (inadvertently) boosted profits. An overnight overdraft of £3.62 attracted an excess fee of £5.00.

I remain, your (and — more [im]pertinently — Brian Pitman's) indebted servant.

Yours faithfully,
M.J. DANIELS,
32 North Parade,
Grantham, Lincs.

Letters to *The Times*
Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

Role of non-executives goes beyond finance

From Mr J. Edward Blackwell

Sir, I am writing in support of Mr Andrew Irvin (Business Letters, February 26).

One of the prime needs of almost any small business is to have part-time directors (or the equivalent) able to give useful advice and criticism.

Eight years ago, when I was working with Macclesfield Business Ventures (an enterprise agency), I devised a system to provide such quasi-directoral support, calling it, rather flippantly, "Rentaboard". It proved to be very successful as far as the five trial ventures were concerned. Two of them, engineering companies, are continuing to thrive, and the other three were sold eventually, all with benefit to our clients.

Unfortunately, this promising scheme was knocked on the head by the Insolvency Act. For fear of our being made liable as "shadow" directors in an insolvency, our lawyers and our banker sponsors said we must discontinue the scheme.

It is interesting to know that the idea should now be revived. But I fear that it will be a failure if too much emphasis is put on the non-executive director having essentially to be a finance director.

I believe, after a lifetime's experience of small business, that whereas, of course, the final collapse of an enterprise is the result of financial weakness, the underlying reasons for these failures more often than not are basic weaknesses in overall management, of which financial control is but one. Part-time directors should be, of necessity, persons who have actually managed their own businesses and know what it means to be in sole charge.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD BLACKWELL,
Twin Oaks,
3 Prestbury Road,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire.

DIRECT
Premium Account
NEW RATES OF INTEREST
effective from Thursday, 4th March 1993

		Gross % PA	Net equivalent % PA
Ordinary Account		0.50	0.38
Direct Premium Account			
Annual Interest	£1,000 – £9,999	6.00	4.50
	£10,000 – £24,999	6.60	4.95
	£25,000+	7.00	5.25
Monthly Income	£10,000 – £24,999	6.40	4.80
	£25,000+	6.80	5.10

Interest rates are variable. Net equivalents assume the current basic rate income tax of 25%. Interest will be payable net of basic rate income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or subject to the required registration, gross. The actual net amount receivable by an investor who has not registered for gross interest will depend upon the basic rate income tax in force at the time interest is credited or paid out. The Ordinary Share Account rate is payable on Annual Account balances below £1,000 and Monthly Account balances below £10,000

For full details please ring Direct Savings Helpline on
0345 247 247
BRADFORD & BINGLEY BUILDING SOCIETY
Crossflatts, Bingley, West Yorkshire BD16 2UA

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0345 717373				
Mastertrust	110.40	118.00	-0.20	1.43
International	81.56	86.76	-0.31	1.18
Dividend Gth	56.27	59.86	+0.45	5.01
Global Gth Sec	59.91	63.73	-0.04	2.87
Ethical Growth	63.61	67.67	-0.43	2.61
High Inc Equity	180.20	190.70	-1.20	5.32
Worldwide Bond	266.50	282.60†	-1.40	4.42
Gilt Fixed Int	129.00	136.80†	...	6.94
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	44.29	46.75	-0.11	1.81
European	80.86	85.68†	-0.06	...
European Inc	78.44	83.19†	-0.40	1.61
Exempt	904.40	935.20	+10.40	3.27
Extra Inc	41.85	45.48†	-0.66	5.53
F East Emerg Ec	82.26	88.62	-0.34	0.72
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	371.60	397.20†	+4.50	4.23
Equity Inc	209.10	223.50†	+2.30	4.08
High Yield	233.00	249.00	+4.50	4.24
Balanced	631.20	674.70	+6.40	2.81
American Inc	49.49	52.90†	+0.43	3.23
Wld Asset Val	38.19	40.82	-0.18	2.01
Japan	143.70	153.10	+1.40	0.01
Secs of Am	431.00	458.90	+6.20	0.36
AXA EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	312.40	332.40	+4.30	2.93
-do- Inc	223.90	238.20	+3.00	2.93
Higher Inc Acc	560.00	595.80	+7.20	4.04
-do- Inc	345.90	367.60	+4.50	4.04
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	175.20	185.00†	-0.30	6.69
-do- Inc	91.81	96.97†	-0.17	6.69
Nth America	267.10	284.20	+1.80	...
Far East	258.40	274.90	-0.50	0.31
Europe	218.80	232.80	-0.49	1.24
General Inc	422.50	449.50	+5.40	2.61
-do- Acc	460.10	489.50	+5.90	2.61
Brit Excell	63.77	67.84	-0.85	2.92
Brit Fndmtls Inc	65.77	69.97	+0.59	5.24
Brit Fndmtls Acc	83.79	89.14	+0.75	5.24
Global Opps	68.84	73.24	-0.26	0.07
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15. 081 534 5544				
Capital	106.30	113.70†	-0.80	3.20
Euro Gth Inc	115.10	122.00	-0.50	1.02
Extra Inc	104.00	111.20	+0.90	5.58
General	238.80	255.40	-2.30	3.49
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.70	59.69†	-0.02	8.70
Income	467.10	499.60†	+3.20	4.84
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002				
American Gth	92.76	98.56	+0.37	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	120.30	128.90	-0.10	.
Australia	...	...	...	...
Convertibles	51.69	55.28	+0.16	7.40
Eastern	176.70	190.10	-0.20	1.70
Equity Income	78.58	83.59	+0.51	6.50
European Gth	229.20	243.90	-0.50	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	149.70	160.30	-1.00	2.00
Exempt	82.14	84.41†	-1.69	3.80
German Growth	54.08	57.72	-0.06	0.80
Global Growth	107.40	114.60	-0.30	.
Japan Growth	157.70	166.10†	+0.80	...
Japan Sunrise	133.60	142.60	-0.30	...
Portfolio	115.20	123.20†	+0.70	3.40
-do- Acc	205.50	219.90†	+1.30	3.40
UK Growth	76.18	81.04	-0.64	3.10
UK Smaller Cos	76.82	83.15	-0.60	2.00
Select Managers	62.66	67.14	+0.24	2.10
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	103.39	110.57	+1.30	2.39
-do- Inc	94.69	101.28	+1.19	2.39
Global Bond	29.61	31.41	-0.18	5.78
High Yield Acc	51.51	55.09	+0.42	4.52
-do- Inc	37.75	40.38	+0.31	4.52
Smlr Cos Acc	83.34	89.13	+0.70	1.81
-do- Inc	77.07	82.43	+0.65	1.81
Amer Gth Acc	58.19	62.23	-0.17	...
-do- Inc	57.10	61.07†	-0.17	...
Euro Gth Acc	96.55	103.26	-0.05	1.78
-do- Inc	95.22	101.84†	-0.05	1.78
Mngd P folio	34.26	36.64	+0.09	1.54
Pacific Growth	88.88	95.06	-0.28	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	86.16	92.15	+0.11	1.09
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144				
Financial	114.70	122.20†	+0.80	3.64
Smaller Cos Acc	272.80	290.50	+2.10	...
Smaller Cos Inc	159.70	170.10	+1.20	1.35
High Inc	70.66	75.96†	+0.46	7.26
Income	125.50	134.30	+0.40	4.32
Mngd P folio Inc	90.99	96.91†	-0.07	2.15
-do- Acc	172.00	183.10	-0.20	...
North American	106.40	113.30	-1.10	0.19
Orient	100.40	108.00	-0.30	..
Recovery	37.01	39.79	+0.06	2.97
German	43.23	46.34	-0.29	0.09
Intl Growth	32.79	34.92	-0.10	0.22
European Inc	23.00	24.77	-0.10	0.46
Conv General	...	...	...	...
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	64.37	68.48	+0.15	1.07
-do- Acc	71.76	76.35	+0.16	1.07
Income Fund 5	210.70	224.20	+3.30	4.02
-do- Acc	479.20	509.80	+5.30	4.02
Inv Portfolio	66.90	69.33†	+0.44	2.13
-do- Acc	75.54	78.29†	+0.50	2.13
Smaller Cos	119.00	126.70	+0.50	2.07
-do- Acc	143.00	152.20	-0.60	2.07
High Inc P folio	58.89	61.03†	+0.66	4.74
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL. 071 480 7216				
Shi Gilt Fxd Int	66.37	67.27†	...	6.99
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 8AH. 061 837 5060				
Environ	134.40	143.00	+0.70	1.64
UK Growth	144.80	154.10†	+1.50	2.31
UK Income	123.20	131.10	+0.80	4.43
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	82.59	88.33	-0.62	1.05
Growth	44.82	47.94	-0.56	2.98
Income	52.41	56.36	-0.54	4.31
Far East	42.49	45.44	-0.02	0.17
North American	82.00	87.83	-0.79	0.01
Global	81.97	87.67†	-0.82	0.69
European	69.10	73.90†	-0.14	1.27
Japan	88.00	94.12	-0.24	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	60.72	64.36	-0.18	4.98
UK Cap Gwth	78.28	83.72	-1.22	2.02

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	132.70	141.20	+0.30	0.20
-do- Acc	141.00	150.10	+0.40	0.20
European	67.20	71.19	-0.32	1.05
-do- Acc	69.65	73.79	-0.33	1.05
Far East Gen	50.14	53.35†	-0.15	...
-do- Acc	50.14	53.35	-0.15	...
Glenfriars	245.90	261.60†	-2.80	1.01
-do- Acc	276.80	294.50	-3.30	1.01
Growth	375.00	401.10	-3.90	2.55
-do- Acc	642.70	687.40	-6.70	2.55
Income Growth	366.00	391.50†	+3.80	4.03
-do- Acc	489.30	520.60	+5.10	4.03
Master Portfolio	9420.0	9739.0†	+59.00	2.67
-do- Acc	10850.0	11217.0	+68.00	2.67
Special Sits	85.81	91.29†	+1.58	2.51
-do- Acc	100.43	106.85	+1.86	2.51
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1193.0	1230.0	+11.00	4.50
-do- Acc	1382.0	1425.0	+14.00	4.50
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	198.10	210.80†	-0.70	1.73
Capital	531.40	567.10	+6.10	2.48
Eurotrack 100	131.70	140.10†	-0.60	1.71
Euro Gth	81.02	86.20	-0.43	1.43
Far East Growth	81.49	86.96	+0.58	0.16
Global Bond	23.68	24.95	-0.15	6.91
Hong Kong	76.11	81.22†	+0.36	0.99
Income	503.20	537.00	+4.90	4.67
Ind Growth	71.58	76.39	-0.09	1.07
Japan Growth	206.60	220.40	-0.40	...
Japan Smllr Cos	26.09	27.84†	-0.01	...
Japan Index	61.75	65.90†	-0.30	0.31
Nth American	429.60	458.40	+0.80	0.96
S pore Mly Gth	50.57	53.97	+0.98	...
The Footsie Fd	108.30	114.30	+1.40	2.75
Tiger Index	137.30	146.50	-0.30	0.72
Triple Index	99.33	106.00†	-0.50	2.89
UK Index	122.40	130.60	+1.50	3.30
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH. 071 606 0708				
American P folio	84.74	90.54	-0.73	1.00
European P folio	72.83	77.28	-0.23	1.38
Japanese P folio	50.68	53.81	-0.27	...
Pacific P folio	92.51	99.48	-0.56	2.43
Cazenove P folio	69.52	74.36	-0.54	3.00
UK Income Gth	62.34	66.84	-0.54	5.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	604.15	609.40	+18.20	4.74
Fixed Int	155.70	156.45	-2.60	9.27
Deposit	6.00	6.14	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Income	596.47	600.35	-23.21	4.98
-do- Acc	2287.9	2316.6	+87.48	...
Deposit	5.90	6.03	...	...
Fxd Int Inc	127.15	127.21	-2.57	9.12
-do- Acc	166.55	166.88	-1.66	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	63.32	66.66	...	2.43
Beckman Intl	82.69	87.57	+0.14	3.23
Fdars Hse Inc	174.76	187.91	...	6.58
Friars Hse Cap	245.79	264.29	...	2.94
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	111.31	118.42	-0.40	...
European Gth	95.23	101.31	-0.44	1.26
Far East Gth	95.21	101.29	-0.27	0.31
Japan Gth Acc	33.47	35.61	+0.04	...
Managed	60.92	64.81	+0.39	3.02
-do- Acc	73.58	78.28	+0.49	3.02
Mdly Inc Plus	47.29	50.31	+0.11	8.54
Smaller Cos	32.69	34.77†	-0.50	2.09
-do- Acc	36.83	39.18	-0.56	2.09
UK General	68.43	72.80	+1.00	2.71
-do- Acc	82.04	87.28	+1.20	2.71
Wwide Bd	64.47	68.58†	-0.26	6.40
-do- Acc	82.92	88.21	-0.34	6.40
Wwide Sp Sits	53.53	57.25	-0.07	0.27
-do- Acc	55.77	59.65	-0.07	0.27
Quilter General	122.94	130.79	+1.72	2.46
-do- Acc	135.32	143.96	+1.89	2.46
Quilter Income	92.32	98.21†	+1.26	4.55
-do- Acc	113.78	121.04	+1.26	4.55
Quilter Intl	124.83	132.80	+0.43	0.43
-do- Acc	126.55	134.63	+0.43	0.43
Quilter UK Spec	69.63	74.07	+0.64	2.47
-do- Acc	92.12	98.00	+0.85	2.47
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Fin Property	100.67	107.10	+1.16	1.76
Fixed Conv	40.18	42.74†	-0.06	8.25
-do- Acc	104.82	111.51	-0.18	8.25
Equity Inc	142.34	151.43†	+1.80	4.09
-do- Acc	457.86	486.89	+5.77	4.09
High Yield	116.76	124.21†	+1.15	5.22
-do- Acc	441.48	469.66	+4.34	5.22
Preference	47.71	50.76	+0.06	7.79
-do- Acc	241.68	257.11	+0.28	7.79
PPT Europe	151.12	160.77	-0.67	0.56
PPT Global Bnd	84.74	90.04	-0.31	4.91
PPT Gold Com	49.64	52.81	+0.07	...
PPT Thai	55.80	59.36	-1.03	...
PPT Hong Kong	100.43	106.84	+0.99	0.34
PPT Japan	92.51	98.41	+0.24	...
PPT N Amer	153.02	162.79	+0.23	...
PPT S'pore Mly	99.09	105.41	-0.51	...
PPT UK	115.62	123.00	+1.69	1.45
PPT Cash	91.13	91.13	+0.01	6.28
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	78.12	83.11	-0.56	0.95
Japanese Acc	47.86	50.91	+0.21	...
UK Balncd Inc	123.80	131.70	+1.10	2.55
-do- Acc	144.50	153.70	+1.28	2.55
UK Growth Acc	204.80	217.90	+1.50	2.22
UK High Inc	132.00	140.40	+0.60	6.77
-do- Acc	155.80	165.70	+0.70	6.77
N America Acc	114.20	121.50	+0.30	0.32
European Acc	154.20	164.20	-0.40	3.00
UK Pref F/I Inc	60.49	64.20	+0.07	8.80
-do- Acc	97.65	103.60	+0.10	8.80
Intl Sp Sits Acc	45.44	48.34	-0.10	0.23
Environmntl Opp	71.61	76.18	+0.42	1.46
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	114.60	121.70	-0.30	...
UK Smlr Cos	183.00	194.40	-1.50	1.29
Eurofund	38.30	40.48	-0.18	0.99
Mngd Exempt	164.50	171.40	+0.90	3.06
Growth Inc	212.00	225.30†	+2.10	3.99
High Dist	137.90	146.50	+1.00	5.90
International	315.20	334.90	-1.90	0.97
Intl Income	81.34	86.83	-0.09	2.99
Pacific	56.43	59.96	-0.21	0.50
Smllr Jap Cos	55.54	59.01	+0.22	..
Tokyo	160.90	171.10	-0.80	...

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Japan Exempt	90.70	93.19	+0.10	0.54
Sm Jap Exempt	469.20	481.00	+0.40	0.10
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261				
Endurance	167.70	178.40	...	1.06
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	105.06	110.59	+1.24	3.53
High Income	120.22	126.55	+1.29	5.10
Tst of Inv Tsts	139.62	146.97†	-0.75	2.19
Special Sits	83.25	87.63	+0.85	3.30
North American	107.17	112.81	+2.17	0.98
Far Eastern	216.53	227.93	+0.45	1.52
Intl Growth	90.88	95.66	-0.60	1.44
European	64.52	67.92	+0.21	2.19
Smaller Cos	69.87	73.55	-0.26	2.26
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
America	221.20	234.80	-1.10	..
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	.	5.90
European Tst	111.20	118.30	+0.50	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	94.52	100.00	-0.20	0.87
Far Eastern	118.30	126.60	+0.10	..
Oseas Income	90.08	96.41	-0.15	2.66
UK Growth	91.75	98.13	+1.10	1.68
UK Income	101.80	108.90	+1.30	3.80
US Smaller Cos	232.50	248.70	+0.50	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	430.50	449.60	-0.20	..
-do- Acc	439.60	459.40	-0.20	...
Capital	281.10	299.00	+1.20	2.18
-do- Acc	388.00	412.70	+1.60	2.18
Contl Smllr Cos	46.48	50.22	-0.19	1.27
-do- Acc	48.10	51.96	-0.19	1.27
Convertible	108.10	114.90	+0.30	6.57
-do- Acc	200.20	212.90	+0.60	6.57
European	98.59	105.20	-0.20	0.91
-do- Acc	101.90	108.70	-0.20	0.91
Extra Income	284.30	302.40†	+2.00	4.47
-do- Acc	398.10	423.40†	+3.60	4.47
Financial	105.30	113.10	-0.10	0.60
-do- Acc	109.50	117.70	-0.20	0.60
Health Fund Inc	113.20	120.90	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	113.20	120.90	+0.50	...
Income Tst	174.20	185.20	+1.30	4.18
-do- Acc	342.90	258.30	+2.00	4.18
Intl Growth	305.20	326.20	+2.10	..
-do- Acc	338.90	362.20	+2.30	...
Japan Gen	139.70	149.30	+0.40	...
-do- Acc	141.10	150.80	+0.40	...
Mngd P folio Inc	89.83	94.55	+0.41	1.06
-do- Acc	92.75	97.63	+0.42	1.06
Monthly Income	143.80	152.90	+0.60	4.65
Recovery	289.60	309.60†	-5.70	0.91
-do- Acc	339.10	362.60†	-6.60	0.91
Gilt Gth Tst	62.49	64.43	+0.24	6.82
-do- Acc	78.45	80.89	+0.30	6.82
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	346.56	368.68	+3.60	3.03
-do- Acc	699.74	744.40	+7.26	3.03
Euro Gth Dist	106.33	113.01†	-0.12	0.93
-do- Acc	109.40	116.38†	-0.13	0.93
Fixed Int Dist	129.91	137.41†	+0.37	6.56
-do- Acc	218.21	230.81†	-0.62	6.56
Intl Gth Dist	73.89	78.61	-0.03	0.80
-do- Acc	76.44	81.32	-0.03	0.80
Nth Amer Dist	169.92	180.15	+0.01	0.78
-do- Acc	184.27	195.37	+0.01	0.78
Pac Basin Dist	222.42	236.62	-0.97	0.33
-do- Acc	225.94	240.36	-0.98	0.33
Stewardship Dist	293.86	312.62	+1.93	2.03
-do- Acc	347.67	369.86	+2.29	2.03
Stwd Inc Dist	60.71	64.59†	+0.32	3.99
-do- Acc	74.39	79.14†	+0.39	3.99
N Am Stwd Dist	98.64	104.94	+1.05	0.08
-do- Acc	104.35	111.01	+1.11	0.08
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 283 4567. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	134.80	144.20	+1.60	..
European	399.40	423.70†	-0.70	1.60
Far East General	195.90	209.20	-1.10	0.34
Germany	99.72	106.60	-0.30	0.43
Global Assets In	66.14	70.74	-0.26	2.28
Global Assets Ac	69.71	74.13	+0.27	2.35
Income Inc	107.20	114.70†	+0.30	7.67
International	251.00	268.30†	-0.30	1.04
Intl Income	77.18	81.85	-0.19	4.87
Japan General	311.10	329.90	+0.90	..
Smllr Cos Div	44.75	47.86	+0.16	6.34
UK Capital Inc	153.50	164.20†	+1.90	4.06
-do- Acc	262.60	280.90	+3.30	3.99
Uk Spec Sits	70.36	75.15	+1.20	1.69
US General	112.90	120.20	-0.30	0.11
W wide Spec Sits	112.20	120.00	+0.40	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	43.26	46.26†	-0.65	1.25
Cash Trust*	127.53	127.53	+0.02	5.60
Pract Inv Inc	101.50	108.85	+0.47	4.04
-do- Acc	216.70	232.39	+1.02	4.04
UK Smaller Cos	95.36	102.26	+0.39	1.62
Income Funds				
Preference Share	25.11	26.86	+0.40	8.23
High Inc	31.00	33.16†	+0.56	5.46
UK Equity Inc	126.03	134.79†	+1.03	4.20
Global Bond	30.34	31.45	-0.15	5.47
International Funds				
Gold Intl	64.32	68.98	+0.12	1.70
Frontier Markets	40.84	43.80	-0.33	0.23
Global Inc Gth	121.41	129.57	+0.34	2.46
UK Intl	110.05	117.70	+0.60	0.73
Overseas Funds				
American	130.05	138.70	+0.42	0.61
European	82.68	87.60†	-0.28	0.87
Euro Sel Opps	94.77	100.84†	-0.31	1.27
American Emerg	77.32	82.02	-0.19	...
Hong Kong	108.81	116.69†	+1.09	1.88
Japan	167.96	178.77	+0.49	...
Pacific Growth	141.97	152.25	..	0.51
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	119.83	128.16	-0.18	0.47
American Gth	116.68	125.79	-0.69	...
European Gth	69.57	74.13	-0.09	0.47
German Horizn	48.48	51.72	-0.01	0.92
Japan Gth	61.75	66.04	-0.21	...
Pacific Inc	126.37	135.16	-1.55	3.00
Pacific Strategy	104.04	111.27	-0.54	...
UK Prog Inc	72.32	76.19	+0.35	4.86
Gt British Cos	48.02	50.58	+0.47	2.42
UK Small Cos	42.99	45.55	+0.05	2.13
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668				
Cash	130.10	130.10	...	5.84
Gilt Fixed	119.30	126.60†	+0.20	6.64
Growth Equity	282.00	301.20	+2.40	2.27
Guardhill	417.80	446.30†	+3.50	2.59

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Income Trust	103.70	110.70	+1.00	3.82
International	150.70	160.90	-0.20	0.32
Japan Trust	101.00	107.90	...	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	257.00	274.30	-0.70	0.36
Pacific	331.30	353.90	-0.80	0.01
Prop Shares	..	...	...	...
Small Cos	..	...	...	...
European	337.10	360.10	-3.30	0.64
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	34.22	36.28†	...	1.80
-do- Acc	35.83	37.98	...	1.80
Intc Adv Inc	28.87	30.61†	-0.10	4.20
-do- Acc	30.01	31.82	-0.10	4.20
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	70.91	75.96	-0.12	0.72
Equity Income	110.70	117.80†	+1.20	3.63
European	135.90	143.70	-0.50	1.48
Intl Situation	72.72	77.36	-0.41	..
Japanese	112.90	120.10	-0.30	..
North American	102.80	109.10	+0.10	0.05
Scandinavian	102.80	108.50	-0.60	0.12
Smaller Cos	28.84	30.68†	+0.12	2.38
HENDERSON PO Box 2083, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	89.23	95.42	+0.37	...
Asian Enterprise	117.99	126.40	-0.27	0.84
Australian	131.64	140.71	-3.16	1.36
European	362.67	384.15	-0.38	0.97
European Inc	69.14	73.10†	-0.07	3.04
Euro Sml Co	120.11	127.75	-0.45	0.81
Extra Income	252.23	268.52†	+2.66	5.41
Family of Funds	66.86	71.40†	+0.05	1.26
Fixed Interest	54.81	58.61†	+0.11	9.55
Global Resour	82.79	88.87†	+0.23	1.50
High Inc	275.72	294.73†	+2.53	4.57
Income Gth	232.38	247.47	+2.73	3.83
-do- Acc	584.77	622.77	+6.87	3.83
International	220.88	235.08	-0.59	0.83
Japan Spc Sit	185.51	197.21	-0.81	...
Japan	159.18	169.20†	-0.38	...
N Amer	229.10	243.88	+1.28	0.14
Pacific Smllr Cos	162.45	174.51	-0.85	0.88
Pref Gilt	46.44	50.47†	+0.14	9.22
Smaller Cos Div	155.32	169.28†	+0.49	4.36
Special Sits	250.03	267.53	+2.33	1.48
-do- Acc	384.19	411.08†	+3.59	1.48
Best of British	55.47	59.47	+0.66	2.39
Spirit of the East	53.49	57.06	-0.06	0.74
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
British	87.48	93.56	+1.39	2.27
Capital	152.50	163.10†	+1.80	2.02
Dollar	310.10	331.60	+1.20	0.29
European	192.60	205.90	-0.30	0.56
Far East	228.10	243.90	-2.80	0.63
Financial	650.20	695.40	+7.30	2.57
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	26.10	27.11†	+0.02	8.01
High Yield	98.37	105.20	+0.90	5.13
Income	132.70	141.90	+1.40	3.54
Intl	205.60	219.80†	...	0.51
Japan Tech	53.55	57.27†	-0.24	...
Nat Resources	55.49	59.34	-0.82	0.89
Security	291.30	311.50	+4.30	2.14
Smaller Cos	102.20	109.30	+0.50	1.79
Special Sits	130.40	139.40†	+1.30	2.35
US Smaller Cos	64.19	68.65	+0.14	...
IBI FUND MANAGERS 36 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BN. 071 489 8673				
Brit O seas	248.20	261.30	+1.70	1.39
Capital Gwth	101.30	106.60	...	2.50
Inv Trusts	123.90	130.40	...	0.73
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	22.36	24.56†	-0.06	1.73
Special Features	26.64	28.30	-0.35	1.62
-do- Acc	31.24	33.19	+0.41	1.62
General Funds				
UK Growth	52.39	56.12	+0.79	2.33
Assets Earnings	69.80	74.16†	+0.92	2.01
do Acc	82.03	87.15†	+1.08	2.01
Managed Invest	81.19	86.76†	+0.46	1.37
Superi Children	75.53	80.53	+0.96	1.74
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.16	50.16†	+0.01	5.03
Extra Inc	77.92	83.57†	+0.76	5.52
Gilt	27.94	29.41	+0.04	7.00
Income Gth	38.03	40.66	+0.47	3.66
MIMstar	76.73	78.63	+0.03	8.56
Preference	17.70	19.36†	+0.01	6.82
UK Income	303.90	324.90	+3.20	3.37
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	53.49	56.83	+0.60	1.50
Property Shares	56.14	59.64†	+0.11	2.32
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	139.30	146.40	-1.50	4.40
European Acc	110.90	117.50	-0.30	2.03
European Dist	105.50	111.80	-0.30	2.03
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	49.75	52.94†	+0.29	1.05
European Perf	108.10	114.70	...	1.31
-do- Acc	110.20	116.80	...	1.31
Euro Small Cos	20.43	21.78	+0.15	0.81
French Growth	69.53	73.94†	+0.66	0.57
-do- Acc	74.10	78.81	+0.71	0.57
Hong K/China	66.58	71.47	-0.13	1.31
Intl Growth	48.59	51.62	+0.04	0.85
-do- Acc	48.59	51.62	+0.04	0.85
Japan Perf	25.87	27.48	+0.02	...
Accum Units	25.87	27.48	+0.02	...
Japan Smllr Cos	28.05	29.79	+0.03	...
Singapore Asean	70.15	75.94	-0.53	0.59
-do- Acc	70.59	76.41	-0.54	0.59
South East Asia	210.40	227.00†	-0.60	0.97
US Smllr Cos	108.90	115.20	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	109.60	116.40	+0.10	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Inc	82.36	87.67	-0.01	2.77
Intl Bond	57.62	58.36†	-0.22	6.67
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	68.76	69.10†	+0.01	5.50
Extra Income	51.26	54.53†	+1.04	7.06
Gilt Yield	118.70	125.20†	+0.20	8.00
Global Income	195.00	207.40†	...	4.12
High Yield	131.30	139.70	+1.50	6.28
Smllr Cos Div	44.56	47.40†	+0.32	5.04
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	91.27	97.10	+1.31	...
North American	77.22	82.15	+0.38	0.43
European	130.60	138.70	-0.60	0.91
Euro Special	77.09	82.01	-0.84	1.01
General	263.30	280.10	+3.40	3.40
Japan	320.20	340.60	-0.90	..
Japanese Special	175.50	186.70	+0.40	...
Master Acc	212.60	226.20	+1.20	1.46
Pacific	244.60	260.00	-1.20	0.51
Smaller Cos	96.54	102.70	+0.30	2.25
UK Equity Gth	33.91	36.07†	+0.32	2.74
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151				
European	72.88	77.53	+0.05	0.73
Extra Income	23.80	25.32	+0.26	3.52

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Far East	23.71	25.22	+0.08	0.97
Income Gwth	72.16	76.77†	+1.39	3.06
Intl Growth	49.31	52.46	+0.20	0.97
Japan	51.23	54.50†	-0.06	..
Maximum Dis*	100.60	102.60†	...	7.36
N Amer Equity	40.80	43.40	+0.21	0.49
UK Equity	85.46	90.91	+0.79	2.06
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	52.74	56.11	+0.70	4.74
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	419.80	446.30†	+5.50	2.95
Equity Acc	797.50	848.40	+10.60	2.95
Equity Income	90.11	95.86†	+0.71	5.15
European	95.90	102.00	-0.40	1.68
Far Eastern	159.70	169.90	-1.70	0.34
Fixed Interest	51.07	54.33	+0.03	8.00
Gilt	91.94	97.50	+0.14	6.80
Global Growth	62.71	66.71	-0.23	0.78
Intl Bond	57.48	61.15†	-0.27	5.40
Japanese	55.44	58.98	+0.11	...
Overseas Equity	90.71	96.50	-0.33	0.82
Pacific Gth	80.24	85.36	-0.55	1.31
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313				
Balanced	314.90	335.00	-8.10	2.99
-do- Acc	681.80	725.40	-17.80	2.99
Contl Euro Gth	51.34	54.05	-0.09	1.32
-do- Acc	54.29	57.15	-0.11	1.32
Extra Inc	237.00	252.20	+2.70	4.08
-do- Acc	576.50	613.40	+6.70	4.08
German Gth	102.90	108.40	-0.10	0.13
-do- Acc	107.90	113.60	-0.10	0.13
Growth Port	478.00	508.60	+2.80	2.02
-do- Acc	478.00	508.60	+2.80	2.02
Income	443.40	471.80	-11.30	3.81
-do- Acc	1124.0	1196.0	+28.00	3.81
Income Port	484.00	514.90	+2.40	4.16
-do- Acc	484.00	514.90	+2.40	4.16
Japan Growth	76.98	81.90	+0.65	0.01
-do- Acc	77.25	82.19	+0.65	0.01
Master Trust	51.15	54.42	+0.27	1.43
-do- Acc	55.63	59.19	+0.29	1.43
N American Gen	185.50	197.40	-0.30	0.01
-do- Acc	214.20	227.90	-0.40	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	132.30	140.80	-2.90	0.01
-do- Acc	135.00	143.70	-3.00	0.01
Pacific Basin	192.80	205.20	-1.20	0.58
-do- Acc	203.80	216.90	-1.30	0.58
Small Cos Rec	288.20	303.40	+1.40	2.47
-do- Acc	371.80	391.40	+1.80	2.47
UK Growth	78.41	83.42	+2.29	2.36
-do- Acc	91.43	97.27	+2.67	2.36
Worldwide Gth	268.70	285.90	-0.30	0.30
-do- Acc	395.90	421.20	-0.40	0.30
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673				
General	76.56	82.15	+0.72	3.00
Income	58.66	62.94†	-0.61	6.00
International	53.87	57.80	-0.02	0.80
American	60.03	64.41	+0.16	0.30
Japan	40.07	42.99	-0.29	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	53.37	57.26	+0.03	2.00
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	392.60	414.30†	-0.70	0.89
-do- Acc	484.40	511.20	-0.90	0.89
American Rec	406.00	429.30	-0.80	0.65
-do- Acc	464.50	491.20	-0.90	0.65
Am Sm Co Acc	117.20	125.30	-0.60	0.07
Australia Acc	138.80	146.80	-1.60	1.59
Capital	609.70	644.80†	+2.60	3.23
-do- Acc	672.80	711.50	+3.00	3.23
Commodity Acc	383.40	405.50	-2.10	1.37
Compnd Gth	791.40	836.90	+4.20	3.36
Dividend	33.30	35.60	+0.20	4.80
-do- Acc	129.40	138.40	+0.70	4.80
Equity Inc	277.90	293.90†	+1.60	5.68
European Div	56.80	60.50	-0.30	4.92
-do- Acc	64.20	68.40	-0.40	4.92
European Gen	378.60	400.40	-3.10	1.48
-do- Acc	473.00	500.30	-3.90	1.48
Extra Yield	354.40	379.20	+3.10	4.89
-do- Acc	1018.4	1089.6	+8.70	4.89
Far Eastern	262.70	277.80†	-0.50	1.34
-do- Acc	345.70	365.50	-0.60	1.34
Fund of Inv	485.10	513.00	+1.30	2.45
-do- Acc	875.30	925.70	+2.10	2.45
General	51.70	54.70	+0.40	3.99
-do- Acc	136.10	144.00	+1.00	3.99
Gilt Fxd Int	62.00	62.00†	...	8.51
do Acc	153.30	153.30	...	8.51
Gold	36.50	38.60	-0.30	2.02
-do- Acc	42.70	45.20	-0.20	2.02
High Inc	23.50	25.10	+0.10	5.09
-do- Acc	86.90	92.90	+0.40	5.09
Intl Growth	65.60	69.40†	...	1.14
-do- Acc	113.00	119.60	-0.10	1.14
Intl Inc	89.70	95.10	-0.40	5.19
Japan Gen Acc	40.40	42.80	...	...
Japan Smllr Cos	117.00	123.80	+0.60	...
Midland	49.60	52.50	+0.10	4.47
-do- Acc	156.70	165.80	+0.30	4.47
Recovery	33.90	36.30	+0.20	3.50
-do- Acc	53.30	57.10	+0.30	3.50
Second Gen	57.60	60.90	+0.10	3.99
-do- Acc	140.90	149.00	+0.40	3.99
Smaller Cos	55.50	58.80†	+0.20	3.83
-do- Acc	105.20	111.50	+0.40	3.83
Trustee	36.50	38.60	+0.10	4.41
Charibond 3	‡111.82	...	+0.10	9.64
Charifund 2	607.60	613.70	-4.40	5.21
Pension ex 1	844.50	865.70	-4.60	4.59
NAACIF Inc 3	‡45.25	...	...	7.84
-do- Acc 3	‡1067.7	...	+2.00	7.84
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG. 0244 688066				
Inv Port Inc	132.10	141.30†	+0.93	2.58
-do- Acc	146.80	156.90†	+0.93	2.58
UK Income	109.40	117.00†	+1.21	3.15
-do- Acc	122.00	130.50†	+1.21	3.15
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	75.23	80.45†	-0.57	0.62
Far East (Pacific)	122.00	129.50	-0.90	0.78
Income Growth	70.19	74.51†	+0.14	4.34
European	65.71	69.75†	-0.06	1.08
Nth American	57.78	61.33	-0.23	1.18
UK Growth	75.98	80.21	+0.64	1.48
Intl Growth	86.75	92.09	-0.55	0.74
Charities	105.30	111.70†	+0.30	4.72
Intl Income	64.05	67.99†	+0.02	4.46
Japan	40.75	43.25†	-0.15	...
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	189.10	200.80	-0.30	...
-do- Acc	202.10	214.60	-0.40	...
Cash	100.60	100.60	...	5.99
-do- Acc	128.10	128.10	...	5.99
European Gth	193.10	204.80	-0.30	0.34
-do- Acc	206.70	219.30	-0.30	0.34
General	447.90	477.80	+5.10	2.72
-do- Acc	852.20	909.10†	+9.70	2.72
Global Dist	135.80	142.80	-0.40	5.45
-do- Acc	148.90	156.40	-0.50	5.45
Income	133.20	142.00†	+1.00	5.13
-do- Acc	195.00	208.00†	+1.60	5.13
International	367.10	391.10	-0.20	0.95
-do- Acc	487.00	518.90	-0.40	0.95

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Japan	150.20	159.20	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	154.20	163.50	+0.60	...
New Europe	133.10	142.00†	+0.40	1.41
-do- Acc	136.30	144.40†	+0.50	1.41
Recovery	280.90	299.30	+2.30	2.35
-do- Acc	350.60	374.00	+2.90	2.35
European Inc	73.78	78.09	-0.36	3.01
-do- Acc	93.60	99.06	-0.33	3.01
Brit Blue Chip	71.30	75.89	+0.80	3.63
-do- Acc	83.40	88.87	+0.94	3.63
Portfolio	72.97	77.58	+0.46	3.08
-do- Acc	81.76	86.94	+0.53	3.08
Gold General	63.31	67.54	-0.46	3.59
-do- Acc	64.19	68.47	-0.45	3.59
Pacific	84.98	90.65	-0.66	0.55
-do- Acc	89.86	95.83	-0.69	0.55
UK Smaller Cos	48.73	51.98†	+0.14	1.10
-do- Acc	54.39	58.02†	+0.16	1.10
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 528 200. Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	56.90	60.95	+0.32	3.37
-do- Acc	56.99	60.95	+0.32	3.37
British Dist	75.40	80.80†	+1.11	2.31
-do- Acc	85.54	91.49	+1.25	2.31
European Gth	167.60	178.90	-0.60	0.21
-do- Acc	210.40	224.50	-0.80	0.21
Extra High Inc	67.87	72.50	+0.43	6.53
-do- Acc	118.00	126.20	+0.80	6.53
FT-SE 100 Index	48.23	51.56	+0.77	3.22
-do- Acc	48.21	51.56	+0.77	3.22
Gilt Fixed Int	56.16	58.53†	+0.10	7.13
-do- Acc	147.70	154.00	+0.30	7.13
High Yield	213.20	228.00	+1.80	5.15
-do- Acc	489.20	523.20	+4.10	5.15
Income	270.80	289.70†	+3.00	3.93
-do- Acc	563.20	602.30	+6.30	3.93
Japan Gth	268.40	287.50†	+1.70	...
-do- Acc	283.70	303.40	+1.80	...
Mandarin Acc	93.19	99.67	-0.63	1.26
North American	166.50	178.10	+0.60	0.92
-do- Acc	209.30	223.90	+0.70	0.92
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	255.60	272.20	+2.70	0.46
Deposit Inc	100.16	100.16†	+0.01	5.86
Deposit Acc	121.40	121.40†	+0.02	5.86
Euro Grh Acc	253.50	270.70†	-0.50	...
Europa	115.50	124.30†	-0.40	...
Intl Gth	159.10	169.70	+0.70	...
Japan Tracker	59.66	63.21	+0.08	...
UK Equity Inc	140.90	151.80	+1.20	5.17
-do- Acc	169.70	182.80	+1.50	5.17
UK Ind Tracker	139.70	149.30†	+1.40	3.53
US Eq Ind Trkr	195.80	207.30†	+0.60	1.25
-do- Acc	206.90	219.30†	+0.70	1.25
Asian Trader	143.40	155.60	-0.40	1.01
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933				
American Inc	172.70	176.40†	+0.40	2.67
European	59.81	61.17	-0.56	1.29
Olympiad	52.15	53.51†	-0.07	0.91
Global Bond	48.12	48.65†	-0.20	7.05
Smaller Cos	59.39	62.06	+0.22	1.87
Equity Income	90.31	92.88†	+0.57	5.04
UK Growth	81.18	83.59	+0.50	1.87
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	48.11	51.31	-0.10	0.72
Australian Acc	289.60	310.70	-7.70	...
Conscience	62.59	66.79	+0.61	1.48
-do- Acc	67.21	71.72	+0.65	1.48
European	169.50	180.80	-2.00	1.22
-do- Acc	180.90	192.90	-2.20	1.22
Extra Income	70.93	75.69	+0.44	6.25
-do- Acc	106.90	114.00	+0.60	6.25
Far East Gth	146.00	156.00	-0.30	0.12
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.89	61.28	+0.12	7.52
Gold	28.95	31.12	+0.01	...
-do- Acc	31.17	33.51	...	...
Income	51.00	54.40	+0.30	5.51
-do- Acc	152.90	163.00	+1.40	5.51
International	28.42	30.49	+0.08	0.95
-do- Acc	40.84	43.81	+0.10	0.95
Jap Sm Cos Acc	248.30	264.80	-0.20	...
S pore Mly Acc	153.00	164.00	-3.10	...
Smllr Cos Acc	23.64	25.41	+0.20	2.01
Special Sits	31.62	34.00	+0.36	1.82
-do- Acc	36.08	38.79	+0.38	1.82
Tokyo	65.10	69.44	-0.15	...
-do- Acc	65.76	70.14	+0.16	...
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	67.11	71.40	+0.95	2.94
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	73.31	77.58	+0.88	7.05
N&P Higher Inc	180.80	191.90†	+1.20	5.04
N&P UK Income	98.07	104.89	+0.96	4.14
N&P Intl	84.45	90.81	+0.44	1.98
N&P Smaller Cos	70.75	75.67	-0.08	1.79
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404				
General	159.15	169.31	+1.04	2.54
Global	265.53	282.48	+0.87	1.29
Growth	102.84	109.41	+0.66	2.50
Income	195.89	208.40	+1.53	4.60
Intl Bond	127.58	135.73	-0.50	8.30
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 508, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577.				
Growth	136.70	143.90	+1.40	2.79
-do- Acc	236.70	249.10	+2.30	2.79
Income	213.70	227.30	+1.50	3.85
Intl Equity	209.00	222.30	...	1.14
-do- Acc	228.80	243.30	-0.10	1.14
Equity	213.10	226.70	+2.10	2.67
-do- Acc	432.10	459.60	+4.30	2.67
UK Intl 25 Acc	66.93	71.20	+0.52	2.13
UK Income	58.04	61.74	+0.47	3.41
UK Smllr Co Acc	67.31	71.60	-0.35	1.77
New Europe Acc	61.68	65.61	-0.17	1.56
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	84.11	89.96	+0.52	0.25
PEP Gth Inc	94.71	101.30	+0.63	1.50
Intl Gth	444.28	475.17	+5.53	0.91
Income	285.41	305.26	+5.20	4.13
W wide Recov	277.36	296.86	+3.63	1.06
American Gth	198.65	212.46	+2.44	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	170.34	182.19	+0.76	0.19
Far East Gth	175.14	187.32	+0.76	0.28
European Gth	110.50	118.19	+0.36	1.02
UK Growth	72.04	77.05	+1.04	3.07
High Income	78.25	83.69	+1.21	5.13
Japanese Gth	161.50	172.27	+1.97	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	166.90	177.50	+0.40	0.92
High Income	107.00	113.80	+2.50	3.78
Conv Gilt	108.70	115.60†	...	6.69
Far East	279.60	297.50	-3.40	0.19
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	49.76	52.94	+0.21	0.55
Emerging Mkts	60.45	64.31	-0.70	0.23

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
General	47.53	50.56	+0.70	3.39
International	81.64	86.85	-0.25	1.31
Gilt Units	25.65	26.44†	+0.06	8.05
Global PEP	35.05	37.29	+0.25	2.09
Income Gth	62.33	66.31†	+0.71	5.31
European	42.95	45.60†	-0.13	1.16
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.46	27.09†	+0.04	6.15
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pricelink 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst**	29.23	31.26†	+0.15	1.63
Pru Gth Hvn Inc	101.06	101.06†	+0.01	5.60
-do- Acc	104.12	104.12†	+0.01	5.60
Pru Equity	653.73	699.17	+8.86	2.42
Pru Equity Inc	78.86	84.34†	+0.83	4.49
Pru European	172.51	184.50	+0.18	1.83
Pru Global Gth	76.22	81.51†	+0.60	1.58
Pru High Inc	85.73	91.68	+0.59	5.80
Pru Intl	151.02	161.51†	+0.43	1.34
Pru Intl Sm Co	63.93	68.37	-0.02	0.94
Pru Japanese	143.93	153.93†	+0.49	...
Pru Nth Amer	142.81	152.73	+0.18	0.46
Pru Pacific Mkt	71.64	76.62†	-0.10	1.83
Pru Premr Inc	49.64	51.69†	...	7.41
Pru Smllr Cos	79.37	84.88	+0.63	2.04
Pru Spec Sits	97.21	103.96	+1.36	2.23
Pru UK Grwth	108.32	115.95†	-1.50	2.34
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981/4				
NC Income	153.05	164.68	+1.91	3.67
NC Japan	216.10	231.58	-1.00	...
NC Maj UK Cos	92.50	99.43	+0.95	2.53
NC America Inc	466.23	499.94	-2.25	0.57
-do- Acc	541.53	580.68	-2.61	0.57
NC Smlr UK Cos	247.67	269.95†	+1.13	1.87
NC European	249.12	265.51	-1.09	1.53
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 829929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	72.34	76.95	-0.56	3.97
Capital Units	139.40	148.20	+0.60	1.51
Commodity	93.85	99.84†	-0.36	1.34
European Gth	149.50	159.00	-0.70	1.46
Financial Sec	165.40	175.90	+0.60	2.02
High Return	207.60	220.70	+0.90	4.92
High Yield	203.40	216.30	+0.50	4.42
Income Units	106.70	113.50†	+0.20	5.17
Investment	165.80	176.30	+0.20	1.56
Japan Gth	112.60	119.70	-0.30	...
Japan Smaller	154.00	163.80	-0.30	...
Masterfund	43.84	46.63	-0.08	1.03
Scotbits	240.90	256.20	+1.00	2.16
Scotshares	244.40	260.00	-0.20	2.77
Scotyields	217.40	231.20†	+1.00	4.02
Select Intl	124.10	132.00	-0.10	0.70
Smaller Cos	208.40	221.60	+0.20	1.63
Special Situation	105.80	112.50	-0.50	0.80
UK Equity	218.20	232.10†	-1.20	3.03
US Growth	140.10	149.00†	-0.30	0.30
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 548				
American	241.85	257.97	+2.37	0.70
-do- Acc	261.28	278.69	+2.56	0.70
Australian	130.77	139.48†	-2.32	0.25
-do- Acc	153.23	163.44	-2.72	0.25
UK Enterprise	201.26	214.67†	+2.60	3.04
-do- Acc	232.49	247.98	+3.00	3.04
European Gth	61.33	65.41†	-0.33	1.33
-do- Acc	61.48	67.71	-0.34	1.33
Euro Smllr Cos	55.56	59.26†	-0.34	0.69
-do- Acc	55.94	59.66	-0.35	0.69
Far Eastern Gth	63.20	67.41†	-0.22	...
-do- Acc	64.31	68.59	-0.23	...
Fixed Interest	52.04	54.89†	+0.04	8.60
-do- Acc	63.95	67.45	+0.05	8.60
Gilt Income	102.31	107.81†	+0.30	8.45
-do- Acc	142.98	150.67†	+0.42	8.45
Income	295.74	315.45†	+3.95	4.55
-do- Acc	872.48	930.66	+11.67	4.55
Japan Enterprise	51.65	55.09	-0.21	...
-do- Acc	51.65	55.09	-0.21	...
Japan Smllr Cos	329.82	351.80†	-0.29	...
-do- Acc	330.48	352.51	-0.29	...
Pacific Gth	82.04	87.50†	-0.23	0.55
-do- Acc	84.59	90.23	-0.24	0.55
Smaller Cos	181.34	193.42†	+0.65	1.30
-do- Acc	207.82	221.67	+0.75	1.30
Tokyo	82.18	87.65†	-0.76	...
-do- Acc	83.01	88.54	-0.76	...
UK Equity	201.86	215.31†	+2.67	3.20
-do- Acc	373.81	398.74	+4.95	3.20
US Smllr Cos	128.40	136.95	+1.34	...
-do- Acc	128.40	136.95	+1.34	...
World Fd	67.77	72.28†	+0.36	1.73
-do- Acc	71.51	76.28	+0.38	1.73
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	42.31	45.06	-0.08	4.38
Equity Strategy	60.97	64.93	-0.13	1.86
European Opps	71.40	76.04	+0.08	3.22
Maximum Inc	97.83	100.40	...	5.68
UK Smaller Cos	47.35	50.43	+0.04	3.21
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	339.50	363.30	+5.10	2.97
American	249.80	265.30	+0.90	0.93
Pacific	289.60	309.70	-0.50	0.87
European	449.30	480.50	-1.50	1.34
Worldwide	76.41	81.72	+0.32	1.40
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	300.00	319.20	+2.90	2.86
UK Sm Cos Eqty	190.60	202.80	+1.00	2.73
European	327.20	348.10	-0.50	1.77
North American	250.70	266.80	+0.60	0.62
Income Plus Inc	62.82	66.84†	+0.68	4.04
UK Spec Sits	64.29	68.40†	+0.75	2.53
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	24.66	26.39	...	3.28
Intl Growth Acc	27.31	29.23	...	1.16
Global Inc Acc	30.54	32.69	...	4.08
Market Ldrs Acc	25.35	27.13†	...	3.11
SG TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	82.87	88.63†	...	...
Euro Spec Sits	42.98	45.68	-0.09	...
-do- Acc	45.51	48.37	-0.09	...
Far East Opps	29.76	31.88	-0.11	...
-do- Acc	30.58	32.76	-0.11	...
General Growth	98.02	105.00	+1.30	3.38
Global Tech	116.10	129.40	+1.10	...
Income Growth	98.29	105.70	+1.20	3.90
Income Monthly	56.13	60.05	+0.53	5.24
Japan Growth	65.23	69.38	+0.27	...
Overseas Gth	72.37	77.04	+0.10	...
Smaller Cos	68.88	74.06	+0.59	1.91
Special Opps	96.72	104.00†	+0.70	2.01
Wld Spec Sits	44.03	47.44†	+0.08	...
-do- Acc	44.13	47.54†	+0.08	...
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777				
Managed	42.82	45.50	...	1.88
Equity Gth Acc	57.37	61.07	-0.20	1.25

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
UK Eq General	41.61	44.22	...	2.46
-do- Acc	54.60	58.02	...	2.40
European Acc	41.28	43.86	-0.10	1.31
Far East Acc	48.17	51.19	-0.10	0.33
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	30.72	32.49	...	6.47
N American Acc	45.15	47.98	+0.50	0.77
Gis Lgr Cos Acc	258.00	280.00	+6.60	1.72
UK Eq High Inc	34.39	36.54	-0.10	3.96
-do- Acc	40.27	42.79	-0.20	3.96
UK Lgr Cos Inc	285.60	300.00	-0.10	3.84
UK Lgr Cos Acc	367.20	398.50	-0.30	3.84
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	N283.35	N283.55	...	1.11
US Eq	$2.006	$2.013	..	0.71
Far East Eq	Y193.3	Y205.3	...	...
Japan Eq	Y197.9	Y210.2	..	...
FT Europe	112.80	119.90	..	1.67
FT North Am	$1.700	$1.805	...	0.89
FT Japan	Y193.7	Y205.1	...	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	118.40	125.70	...	1.41
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271				
American	351.40	373.20	-1.50	0.29
British	908.70	961.40†	+5.00	4.69
European	374.80	399.20	-1.30	1.60
Japan	119.90	127.60	+0.30	...
New Pacific	285.00	303.50	-0.70	1.36
Mngd Cash	96.05	96.05	...	5.24
Majority Stg	100.24	101.24	+0.01	5.91
Inv Tst	178.40	189.10†	+0.60	2.03
Saints PPP	366.00	385.30	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin. 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	717.60	767.50	+7.00	2.34
N America Acc	113.00	120.90	+0.90	0.06
Far East Acc	108.80	116.40	-0.20	...
W wide Bond	63.11	67.00	-0.17	5.23
European	81.35	87.01	-0.66	0.71
Equity Income	80.32	85.90	+0.88	3.81
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	34.80	37.22	+0.30	0.86
Managed Assets	115.90	123.96	+0.73	3.92
UK Income	35.96	38.46	+0.41	3.45
UK Growth	35.72	38.21	+0.37	3.01
Worldwide Gth	29.06	31.09	+0.04	0.61
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 346794				
American	203.72	216.72	+0.82	0.20
-do- Acc	223.75	238.03	+0.89	0.20
British Gth	84.43	89.82	-1.27	2.21
-do- Acc	98.53	104.81	-1.47	2.21
European	90.37	96.14†	-0.66	1.19
-do- Acc	95.33	101.41†	-0.70	1.19
Extra Inc	180.49	192.01†	+5.21	4.30
-do- Acc	287.88	306.26†	+8.31	4.30
General Unit	257.69	274.14†	+3.96	2.65
-do- Acc	508.47	540.93†	+7.81	2.65
Income	317.33	337.58	+8.29	3.86
-do- Acc	846.33	887.59	+16.88	3.86
International	474.52	504.80	+1.46	0.67
-do- Acc	630.27	659.86	+1.92	0.67
Pacific	310.07	329.86	-7.07	0.04
-do- Acc	324.73	345.46	-7.40	0.04
Premier Income	50.83	52.95†	+0.08	7.75
-do- Acc	101.39	108.74†	+0.16	7.75
Nat Resources	88.57	94.22	-1.91	0.99
-do- Acc	97.12	103.32	-2.09	0.99
Selected Opps	90.36	96.13	+0.89	1.26
-do- Acc	112.84	120.04	+1.11	1.26
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747				
American Eagle	125.00	133.60	+0.20	0.23
Australia	7.182	7.700†	-0.140	1.04
Equity	180.50	193.10	+2.30	4.42
Euro Spec Sits	141.10	149.20	-0.90	0.58
Financial	38.51	41.20	+0.45	2.94
Global Opps Inc	86.60	92.58	-0.03	2.17
-do- Acc	89.97	95.96	-0.03	2.17
Gold Gen Inc	40.76	43.60	-0.03	1.01
-do- Acc	77.78	83.20	-0.05	1.01
Income	117.00	125.20†	+1.40	4.93
Japan General	122.90	130.70	+0.40	...
Preference	21.97	23.60	+0.05	7.66
UK Capital	102.10	109.00†	+1.40	3.09
Worldwide Cap	194.90	208.00	+1.00	3.09
World Income	82.59	88.01	+0.33	3.45
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545				
Amer Sml Cos	68.70	73.28†	-2.11	...
-do- Acc	70.85	75.57†	-2.19	...
Cash	51.38	51.38	+0.01	6.24
-do- Acc	61.15	61.15	+0.01	6.24
European Opps	62.60	66.69	-0.25	0.44
-do- Acc	63.25	67.38	-0.26	0.44
Far East Opps	136.77	145.88	-0.32	0.66
-do- Acc	139.96	149.29	-0.32	0.66
Gold/Nat. Res	37.28	39.76	-0.34	...
-do- Acc	38.35	40.90	-0.34	...
Japan	63.17	67.38	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	63.17	67.38	+0.20	...
Little Dragons	64.97	69.30	-0.55	0.72
-do- Acc	66.64	71.08	-0.58	0.72
Oriental Income	40.35	43.04	-0.19	3.70
-do- Acc	50.93	54.32	-0.24	3.70
Tiger	207.28	221.09	-0.24	1.19
-do- Acc	216.80	231.25	-0.27	1.19
UK Small Cos	65.32	69.86†	-0.33	2.33
-do- Acc	76.07	81.35†	-0.38	2.33
UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
United Charities	204.80	218.40	+218.4	...
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	11.44	12.17	-0.14	0.50
Pacific Basin	30.18	32.10	-0.13	0.60
Canadian Gth	36.81	39.15	-0.67	0.10
Global Bond	$0.956	$0.996	+0.004	7.25
Penny Share	20.56	21.87	+0.13	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	52.25	52.25	...	5.83
Gilt Growth	65.96	66.66	+0.05	...
Gilt Income	52.93	55.08	+0.04	8.00
Short Dtd Gilt	110.00	111.40	...	4.47
US Govmnt Bd	$0.712	$0.721	...	...
Challenger	93.66	95.85	-0.62	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 0705 388846				
Stockmarket Fd	66.35	70.58	+0.74	2.25

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	7,300	Coats Vly	1,600	Legal & Gn	293	Scot & New	1,400
Alld-Lyons	2,800	Cm Union	1,800	Lloyds Bk	1,800	Scot Power	2,000
Anglian W	704	Courtaulds	1,400	MB Cardn	639	Sears	2,900
Argyll Gp	6,500	De La Rue	242	Marks Spr	3,400	Svrn Trent	1,100
Arjo Wiggn	3,300	Eng China C	885	NFC	585	Shell Trans	7,000
AB Foods	519	Enterpr Oil	652	NatWst Bk	5,300	Siebe	1,300
BAA	1,200	Fisons	3,400	Nat Power	2,500	SmKl Bch	1,600
BAT Inds	2,500	Forte	2,000	Nth Wst W	3,500	Smith Nph	791
BOC	628	GRE	10,000	Nthrn Fds	1,700	Smith (WH)	981
BP	1,300	GUS A	617	P & O	1,600	Sthrn Elec	448
BT	5,600	Gen Acc	1,600	Pearson	660	Std Chartd	762
BTR	5,400	Gen Elec	8,900	PowerGen	1,100	Sun Allnce	5,800
Bk of Scot	1,800	Glaxo	4,300	Prudential	3,200	TI Gp	3,100
Barclays	7,500	Granada	2,700	RTZ	2,600	TSB	3,400
Bass	1,600	Grand Met	6,200	Rank Org	1,400	Tate & Lyle	1,000
Blue Circle	1,000	Guinness	6,000	Reckitt Col	860	Tesco	5,500
Boots	1,500	HSBC	4,400	Redland	961	Thames W	3,000
Bowater	1,200	Hanson	7,200	Reed Intl	492	Thrn EMI	557
Brit Airwys	4,900	ICI	3,400	Rentokil	765	Tomkins	4,000
Brit Gas	7,700	Inchcape	1,000	Reuters	453	Unilever	2,900
Brit Steel	8,000	Kingfisher	708	Rothmans	967	Utd Bisc	4,100
Burmah Cast	962	Kwik Save	103	Ryl Ins	6,000	Vodafone	5,300
Cable Wire	4,100	LASMO	1,800	Ryl Bk Scot	2,600	Wellcome	1,000
Cadbury	6,200	Ladbroke	3,700	Sainsbury	3,700	Whitbd 'A'	655
Carlton Cms	957	Land Secs	1,600	Scot Hydro	1,500	Wlms Hld	2,100

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3408.64 (+8.11)
S&P Composite 449.31 (+1.41)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge 16853.92 (-10.33)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 6436.64 (+92.41)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency 99.9 (+0.6)

Sydney: AO 1626.1 (-15.9)

Frankfurt:
DAX 1693.73 (-3.01)

FT 30 share: 2264.4 (+31.1)

Brussels:
General 5994.05 (+14.30)

Paris: CAC 531.32 (+3.36)

Zurich: SKA Gen 481.9 (+0.3)

London:
FT A All-Share 1419.72 (+16.31)
FT 500 1558.31 (+16.86)
FT Gold Mines 85.8 (-0.3)
FT Fixed Interest 112.74 (+0.61)
FT Govt Secs 97.25 (+0.31)
Bargains 35843
SEAQ Volume 710.3m
USM (Datastrm) 151.78 (+0.82)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 22	March 5	June 3	June 14

Call options were taken out on 3/3/93: AMEC, Amstrad, Avesco, Auto Sec, ASDA, Brown & Jackson, Essex Furniture, Ferranti, Harrstone, Midland & Scottish, NMC, Ossory Estates, Premier Cons Oil, Proteus Intl, Sycamore, Spring Ram, Tarmac, Tepnal Diagnostics, Waterford Wedgewood. **Put & Call:** Queens Moat.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 93	2912.0	2935.0	2906.0	2930.0	15637
Previous open interest: 54416	Jun 93	2928.0	2951.0	2924.0	2947.0	3672
Three Month Sterling	Mar 93	94.01	94.09	94.01	94.07	10279
Previous open interest: 283712	Jun 93	94.51	94.60	94.51	94.59	15513
	Sep 93	94.69	94.74	94.69	94.73	3253
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 93	96.78	96.79	96.77	96.80	918
Previous open interest: 23786	Jun 93	96.67	96.70	96.65	96.70	642
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 93	91.96	92.04	91.94	92.04	21650
Previous open interest: 489310	Jun 93	93.02	93.13	93.01	93.12	36992
US Treasury Bond	Mar 93	112-10	112-10	112-10	112-13	6
Previous open interest: 339	Jun 93	110-29	110-29	110-28	111-04	45
Long Gilt	Mar 93	105-14	105-19	105-10	105-18	3636
Previous open interest: 79860	Jun 93	106-08	106-19	106-07	106-14	24116
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 93				112.01	0
	Jun 93	111.34	111.37	111.31	111.34	1084
German Govmt Bond	Mar 93	95.47	95.85	95.46	95.81	46333
Previous open interest: 144896	Jun 93	95.89	96.27	95.88	96.20	51717
Three month ECU	Mar 93	90.68	90.73	90.68	90.71	339
Previous open interest: 17599	Jun 93	91.73	91.82	91.73	91.79	873
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 93	94.72	94.80	94.72	94.80	2490
Previous open interest: 49384	Jun 93	95.41	95.54	95.41	95.51	6639
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 93	96.05	96.55	96.00	96.42	9447
Previous open interest: 43435	Jun 93	96.03	96.53	95.97	96.38	1727

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 77.4 (day's range 77.4-77.6).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 3	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6736-2.6854	2.6820-2.6854	3/8-1/4ds	1 1/8-1 3/8ds
Brussels	48.97-49.17	49.06-49.17	10-14ds	31-36ds
Copenhagen	9.1210-9.1640	9.1430-9.1640	9-10 1/4ds	20 3/4-23 1/4ds
Dublin	0.9734-0.9760	0.9737-0.9758	38-48ds	122-142ds
Frankfurt	2.3780-2.3889	2.3857-2.3889	3/8-1/2ds	1 1/4-1 1/2ds
Lisbon	218.32-219.12	218.43-218.88	153-170ds	459-492ds
Madrid	170.48-171.58	171.27-171.54	158-182ds	391-448ds
Milan	2271.00-2284.00	2274.00-2284.00	10-12ds	29-31ds
Montreal	1.8060-1.8147	1.8060-1.8081	0.19-0.01pr	0.33-0.01pr
New York	1.4490-1.4570	1.4490-1.4500	0.38-0.37pr	1.04-1.02pr
Oslo	10.1190-10.1580	10.1350-10.1580	1 1/4-3 3/4ds	6 1/2-8 7/8ds
Paris	8.0770-8.1060	8.0920-8.1060	3 3/4-4 1/4ds	11 3/4-12 1/4ds
Stockholm	11.1550-11.1930	11.1690-11.1920	2 1/8-4 1/4ds	9 1/4-11 7/8ds
Tokyo	169.27-170.09	169.27-169.47	1/2-3/8pr	1 1/4-1 1/8pr
Vienna	16.72-16.81	16.76-16.81	2 1/8-3ds	7 1/8-8 7/8ds
Zurich	2.2006-2.2149	2.2118-2.2149	1/4-1/8pr	1/2-1/4pr

Source: Extel — Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4488-1.4513
Australia dollar	2.0595-2.0625
Bahrain dinar	0.5445-0.5565
Brazil cruzeiro *	29708.2-29708.5
Cyprus pound	0.706-0.716
Finland marka	8.567-8.683
Greece drachma	319.25-326.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.2327-11.2419
India rupee	46.35-47.31
Kuwait dinar KD	0.443-0.453
Malaysia ringgit	3.8025-3.8073
Mexico peso	4.45-4.55
New Zealand dollar	2.7529-2.7601
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.3945-5.5205
Singapore dollar	2.3830-2.3862
S Africa rand (fin)	6.6165-6.6922
S Africa rand (com)	4.5613-4.5674
U A E dirham	5.303-5.427

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4174-1.4184
Austria	11.53-11.55
Belgium (Com)	33.75-33.79
Canada	1.2465-1.2470
Denmark	6.29-6.30
France	5.572-5.577
Germany	1.6395-1.6405
Hong Kong	7.7307-7.7317
Ireland	1.486-1.488
Italy	1562.0-1567.0
Japan	116.82-116.87
Malaysia	2.6170-2.6185
Netherlands	1.8435-1.8445
Norway	6.975-6.985
Portugal	150.5-150.7
Singapore	1.6401-1.6411
Spain	117.8-118.0
Sweden	7.688-7.698
Switzerland	1.515-1.516

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 5 Week fixed: 6¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5 7/16; 3 mth 5⅜. Sell: 2 mth 5 5/16; 3 mth: 5¼.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5 13/16-5¾	5 25/32-5 23/32	5 23/32-5⅝	5 19/32-5 17/32	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¼-6 1/16	6⅛-6 1/16	6⅛-6	5⅞-5¾	5¾-5⅝
Interbank:	6¼-6 1/16	6⅛-6 1/16	6⅛-6	5⅞-5¾	5¾-5⅝
Overnight: open 6¼, close 5.					
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6	5¾	5⅝
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6 1/16	6⅛-6	5 31/32-5 29/32	5¾-5⅝	5⅝-5½
Dollar CDs:	3.09-3.05	n/a	3.11-3.06	3.19-3.15	3.38-3.34
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-5 29/32	5¾-5⅝	5⅝-5½

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Feb 26, 1993 Agreed rates Mar 24, 1993 to Apr 25, 1993 Scheme I: 7.35%. Schemes II & III: 7.47%. Reference rate Jan 30, 1993 to Feb 26, 1993, Scheme IV & V: 6.228%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3 1/16-2 15/16	3 5/16-3 3/16	3¼-2¾
Deutschemark:	8 13/16-8 11/16	8⅝-8½	8 5/16-8 3/16	7⅞-7¾	8¾-7⅞
French Franc:	11½-11¼	11⅝-11⅜	11⅝-11⅜	10⅝-10⅜	11¼-10¾
Swiss Franc:	5⅛-5⅝	5 5/16-5 3/16	5¼-5⅛	5 1/16-4 15/16	5½-4½
Yen:	3¼-3⅛	3 5/16-3 3/16	3¼-3⅛	3 5/16-3 3/16	3¼-2¾

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $329.80-330.20 Close: $329.30-329.80 High: $329.80-330.20 Low: $328.20-328.70 Krugerrand: $328.00-330.00 (£225.75-227.75)
Sovereigns: Old $78.50-81.50 (£52.00-54.00) New $78.50-81.50 (£52.00-54.00)
Platinum: $342.75 (£235.40) Silver: $3.59 (£2.465) Palladium: $105.00 (£72.10)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyon	600	26	41	51	16	38	45
(*594)	650	7½	19	31	48	70	75
ASDA	57	10½	14	16	2½	5	6½
(*65)	67	4	9	11	6	10	12
Barc	550	49	62	73	6½	18	25
(*584)	600	16	34	47	26	43	50
Boots	500	25	36	48	12	23	34
(*511)	550	5	16	26	44	58	63
Br Airways	280	20	28	33	8	21	25
(*290½)	300	9½	18	25	18	32	36
BP	260	35	40	43	2½	8	11
(*275½)	280	17	27	30	7	15	20
	300	7½	17	22	15	26	30
Br Steel	80	10	13½	17	3½	7	9½
(*85)	90	4	8½	12	8	13	15
C & W	700	54	73	84	8	26	34
(*741½)	750	23	44	57	29	50	58
CU	580	50	70	76	5	14	22
(*622½)	629	18	39	47	22	33	44
Courtauld	550	56	61	74	7½	21	25
(*598½)	600	21	36	49	24	45	50
GKN	460	22	32	33	16	26	35
(*475)	500	6	15	23	45	51	60
Grnd Met	420	45	58	64	4½	13	21
(*455½)	460	17	34	45	19	32	37
ICI	1150	84	105	118	25	50	72
(*1230)	1200	39	80	90	50	73	98
	1250	26	56	69	83	105	123
Kingfishr	535	27	41	50	15	32	40
(*542½)	594	7	20	35	46	63	69
Ladbroke	180	24	30	37	7	15	20
(*200)	200	11	19	27	17	24	31
Land Sec	460	34	41	45	4	11	19
(*457½)	500	10	17	24	20	40	42
M & S	330	17	25	34	7	16	20
(*340½)	360	5½	12	20	24	34	37
Sainsbury	500	35	47	55	3	20	26
(*523½)	550	9	22	31	33	48	52
Shell	550	36	52	59	4½	11	19
(*573)	600	8½	23	30	29	34	42
Smkl Bch	420	46	59	68	5	14	21
(*455)	460	19	35	44	18	30	36
Storehse	180	15	23	29	8	15	18
(*185½)	200	6½	14	19	21	27	31
Trafalgar	74	8	12	16	3½	6½	8½
(*79½)	83	4½	8	11½	7½	11	13
Unilever	1200	35	65	89	32	50	59
(*1207½)	1250	12	37	62	67	83	90
Utd Bisc	390	7½	18	25	30	35	39
(*378½)	420	3	10	15	56	59	60

Series		Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
BAA	750	48	60	74	15	32	41
(*776½)	800	23	34	43	42	59	66
BAT Ind	950	27	45	56	53	63	80
(*946)	1000	13	29	39	92	97	113
BTR	550	36	47	50	11	16	26
(*582½)	600	11	21	26	39	41	49
Br Aero	240	42	55	66	14	22	30
(*270)	260	31	44	56	23	32	41
Br Telcm	420	26	34	34	9½	20	25
(*434½)	460	7½	14½	20½	35	44	47
Cadbury	460	38	47	55	11	16	24
(*492½)	500	15	26	35	31	36	45
Guinness	420	35	45	55	12	19	24
(*440)	460	15	26	36	36	42	45
GEC	280	31	34	37	4	9	12
(*306)	300	17	21	26	10	18	21
Hanson	240	18½	22½	26	5½	10	13
(*252½)	260	8½	12½	15½	14½	19½	23½
LASMO	180	16	24	29	14	20	25
(*184½)	200	9	15	21	27	32	38
Lucas	140	12	18	21	10½	13	22
(*143)	160	5	10	15	26	29	35
P & O	550	40	54	65	27	40	57
(*574½)	600	19	33	43	60	70	84
Pilkingtn	100	18	21	25	5	8	12
(*111)	110	12	17	20	9	15	17
Prudential	300	38	40	46	6	10	15
(*333½)	330	14	24	30	16	23	29
RTZ	650	44	60	74	22	33	45
(*682)	700	19	36	50	52	62	72
Scot New	420	35	43	49	11	24	29
(*442)	460	15	22	30	32	47	52
Tesco	240	17	23	29	12	17	20
(*247)	260	8½	15	19	24	27	31
Thames W	500	38	43	50	9	20	23
(*523)	550	12	18	26	33	48	52
Vodafone	390	35	43	55	13	22	25
(*410½)	420	19	29	40	27	37	44

FT-SE INDEX (*2916½)

	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050
Calls						
Mar	137	93	53	26	11	3½
Apr	156	117	83	56	36	19
May	172	137	105	80	59	42
Jun	182	153	120	95	68	43
Dec	260	-	203	-	160	-
Puts						
Mar	5	11	24	49	85	135
Apr	21	32	49	73	104	142
May	37	49	68	121	156	194
Jun	50	63	88	106	135	192
Dec	110	-	145	-	190	-

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	390	6	16	25	22	29	35
(*385)	420	1½	8	15	49	46	55
Amstrad	25	3	4½	6	1½	3	4
(*27)	30	1	3½	4	5	5½	7
Barclays	420	24	35	44	13½	25	35
(*427½)	460	4	17	27	40	49	59
Blue Circ	220	17	24	32	6½	18	24
(*230)	240	7½	15	23	16	30	35
Br Gas	280	26	29	32	1	7	11
(*303½)	300	10	16	20	5	16	19
	330	1½	5	9½	28	37	38
Dixons	220	11	21	26	8	16	24
(*222½)	240	4	14	18	21	28	36
Eurotnnl	500	16	42	60	28	50	62
(*487½)	550	4	22	40	72	85	93
Forte	180	21	24	32	3	12	16
(*198½)	200	7½	14	23	9	21	27
Glaxo	650	37	65	80	13	33	45
(*677½)	700	11	41	64	39	59	72
	750	3½	25	45	82	93	105
HSBC	600	36	53	70	12	35	48
(*623½)	650	11	31	48	38	65	77
Hillsdwn	160	7½	14	16	7	17	22
(*159)	180	2	7	11	23	32	35
Lonrho	80	18	15	19	10	7	10
(*96½)	90	13	10	13	15½	11	15½
Reuter	1350	62	107	137	21	53	77
(*1402½)	1400	30	75	113	45	73	106
R-Royce	130	9	13½	18½	5	12	14½
(*132)	140	4	7½	14	10	16½	20
Sears	90	12	13	16	2	5	7
(*99)	100	4½	7½	11	6	8½	13
Thm Emi	850	29	54	66	12	26	49
(*865½)	900	6	30	40	40	53	79
TSB	160	15	21	25	3	8½	13
(*170½)	180	4½	12	16	13	19	24
Vaal Reefs	35	4	6	6	1½	3	4½
(*36)	40	1½	3½	4	5	6	8
Wellcome	850	56	79	107	11	35	51
(*890½)	900	23	53	80	32	58	70

Series		Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Fisons	220	16	26	35	16	30	35
(*218½)	240	8	19	27	29	43	48

Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastrn Elc	460	30	39	44	15	29	33
(*469½)	500	12	19	26	38	53	58

Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	300	23	32	36	3	9	16
(*317)	330	5	15	20	16	23	31
Scot Pwr	220	17	23	26	2	6	13
(*232½)	240	3	12	16	9½	15	24

March 3, 1993 Tot: 35674 Call: 23071 Put: 12603 FT-SE Call: 7469 Put: 7369
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Cocoa suffered from long liquidation as speculators became disillusioned with the lack of progress at the Geneva cocoa talks. Consumers proposed a minimum price of around £950/tonne, closer to producer demands of £1100/tonne, but the financing of a new pact is still a problem. Chart and fund buying are offsetting small scale coffee sales by Far Eastern producers.

LONDON FOX

COCOA

Mar	717-715	May	797-795
May	727-726	Jul	812-808
Jul	739-737	Sep	827-825
Sep	749-748	Dec	851 SLR
Dec	766-765		
Mar	784-783	Volume: 3904	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	975-970	Nov	920-916
May	939-937	Jan	934-922
Jul	905-903	Mar	948-936
Sep	910-909	Volume: 2511	

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Dec	196.0-92.0
Spot 216.0		Mar	unq
May	226.0-24.0	May	unq
Aug	230.0-28.0	Aug	unq
Oct	211.0-09.0	Volume: 32	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	256.9-54.0
Spot: 274.0		Mar	254.9-53.5
May	273.5-72.6	May	257.5-54.6
Aug	275.5-74.5	Aug	262.3-56.6
Oct	257.4-56.0	Volume: 912	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 3

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	90.24	122.13	133.59
(+/-)	+6.47	+7.59	+0.39
Eng/Wales	90.24	122.25	133.65
(+/-)	+6.47	+5.92	+0.68
(%)	-8.1	+7.0	+5.5
Scotland	n/a	121.72	133.26
(+/-)	n/a	+4.29	+5.06
(%)	n/a	+7.3	-0.3

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (£/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Mar	111.5	111.5	May	111.5	112.0
Apr	111.5	112.0		Volume: 75	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	146.40
May	147.55
Jun	148.65
Sep	109.55
Nov	111.65
Volume: 235	

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	142.50
May	142.95
Sep	107.55
Nov	110.45
Jan	113.75
Volume: 67	

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Apr	151.30
Jun	144.00
Aug	145.50
Oct	unq
Dec	unq
Volume: 20	

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	41.0	39.8
May	42.8	42.5
Apr	97.0	96.3
Volume: 179		

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/kg)
Apr 66.00-65.50

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): The market continued to drift aimlessly whilst waiting for the next headline.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.95	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Mar)	19.05	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.95	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.50	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (May)	20.55	(n/c)

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	194 (+2)	196 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	177 (+2)	178 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Mar	179 (+2)	180 (+3)
Non EEC 1H Apr	177 (+2)	178 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	73 (n/c)	75 (+1)
Naphtha	176 (+2)	178 (+2)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Mar	175.25-75.50	Jun	173.50-74.00
Apr	174.50-74.75	Jul	174.25-74.75
May	173.75-74.00	Aug	176.25-77.00
		Vol: 12218	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	18.93-18.94	Jul	19.02-19.05
May	18.97-18.98	Aug	19.03-19.08
Jun	19.01-19.03	Vol: 14786	

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Mar	191.50-93.50	Jun	200.00-02.00
Apr	198.50-99.50	Jul	198.50-211.0
May	201.50 BID	Vol: 994	

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 93	1386	1380	1381
Apr 93	1390	1380	1384
May 93	1350	1350	1350
Jul 93	1195	1195	1195

Vol: 135 lots. Open Int'st: 2555 Index 1371 +2

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1469.0-1470.0	1489.5-1490.0	957925
Lead (£/tonne)	282.50-282.75	292.50-292.75	78175
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1006.0-1007.0	1022.5-1023.0	797000
Tin ($/tonne)	5635.0-5640.0	5700.0-5705.0	8660
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1164.0-1164.5	1186.0-1186.5	1131600
Nickel ($/tonne)	5900.0-5910.0	5960.0-5965.0	56934

Shares squeezed up again

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 1. Dealings end March 12. §Contango day March 15. Settlement day March 22. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Lambert	Shoes,Lth	
2	Pearson	Newspapr,Pub	
3	Rentokil	Business Serv	
4	Glynwed	Industrial	
5	London Elec	Electricity	
6	Argos Plc	Drapery,Strs	
7	Boddington	Breweries	
8	Eastern Elec	Electricity	
9	Siebe	Industrial	
10	Time Products	Drapery,Strs	
11	Yorkshire Elec	Electricity	
12	GKN	Industrial	
13	Claremont Ga	Textiles	
14	Nobo Gp	Industrial	
15	BAT	Tobaccos	
16	McLeod Russel	Industrial	
17	MEPC	Property	
18	Enterprise	Oils, Gas	
19	Rotork	Industrial	
20	Silentnight	Industrial	
21	Sthrn Water	Water	
22	Bridon	Industrial	
23	Southnews	Newspapr,Pub	
24	Courts Furnish	Drapery,Strs	
25	Electrocompnts	Electrical	
26	Randfontein	Mining	
27	MFI	Drapery,Strs	
28	Tiphook	Transport	
29	Unigate	Foods	
30	BAA	Transport	
31	Telemetrix	Electrical	
32	Yorks Chem	Chems,Plas	
33	Body Shop	Drapery,Strs	
34	Mersey Docks	Transport	
35	Northern Elec	Electricity	
36	IMI	Industrial	
37	Dom & Gen	Insurance	
38	North West	Water	
39	McAlpine (A)	Building,Rds	
40	M & G	Fin Trusts	

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Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the *Sunday Times* for full details)

The winner of yesterday's Portfolio Plus prize of £4,000 was Mrs P Beck of Alswear, South Molton, Devon.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
403	245½	Abbey Ntl	385	...	...	4.1	14.6
216	154	Allied Irish	216	+1	...	5.3	—
197½	106	Aus New Z	160	-2	...	5.3	...
3756¼	1906¼	Bankamerica	3593½	-112½	...	...	...
212	141	Bk of Ireland	212	...	...	5.6	33.9
345	320	Bk Leumi UK	325	...	17.0	7.3	...
140	97	Bank Scotland	133	-1	4.3	4.4	20.9
464	274	Barclays	433	+1	21.1	6.5	...
6	1½	Benchmark	3	...	...	...	...
204	28	Brown Shipley	36	...	...	...	...
21	10	Carlisle	17½	...	...	...	...
461	295	Cater Allen	459	...	26.0	7.6	...
107	61	Cardes	108	...	3.8	4.7	15.6
2225	912½	Chase Manh	2175 ↑	-18½	...	...	...
1850	537½	Citicorp	1781½	-31½	...	...	...
335	205	Close Bros	335	...	9.5	3.8	14.9
£122	8687½	Commerzbk	£120½	-150	...	3.3	...
£300½	£214	Deutsche Bk	£300½	...	...	2.1	...
81	11½	First Nat Fin	77	-1	...	...	...
1104	493	Fuji Bank Y	1023	...	...	0.5	58.2
425	230	Gerrard Nat	425	...	21.0	6.6	...
634	276	HSBC	624	+23	...	3.2	25.6
605	313	HSBC HK	605	+21	...	3.3	24.9
318	202	Hambros	315	+3	13.8	5.8	14.0
361	208	Joseph (L)	358	...	15.8	5.9	...
120	54	King Shaxson	119	...	5.0	5.6	...
399	212	Kleinwort Ben	389 ↑	+5	16.0	5.5	—
573	346	Lloyds	540	+9	...	4.5	7.5
79	40	Lon Scot Bk	78½	...	3.0	5.1	15.6
413	258	Nat Aust Bk	408	-5	...	5.0	14.2
485	251	Nat West	443 ↑	+8	...	5.3	61.2
819	418	Provident	770 ↑	+1	28.5	4.9	—
47	25	Rea Bros	46	...	0.5	1.4	...
251	177	Ryl Bk Scot	239	...	8.8	4.9	...
1688	1043	Schroders	1688	+90	18.0	1.4	19.6
694	364	Stand Chart	692	+13	20.0	3.9	17.9
179½	115	TSB	171	...	6.4	5.0	...
200	38	Union Disc	105	-10	13.5	...	...
635	403	Warburg SG	629	+8	18.0	3.8	18.6
216	157	-do- 6% 'A'	210 ↑	+1	...	3.8	...
7225	3087½	Wells Fargo	6993½	-118½	...	1.5	...
183	90	Westpac	154	-4	...	5.3	—
253	188	Wintrust	201 ↑	...	9.3	6.2	7.8

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
712	526	Allied-Lyons	593	-10	20.0	4.5	13.8
656	472	Bass	585	+1	18.9	4.3	12.7
216	146	Boddington	216	+6	6.6	4.1	13.7
400	343	Bulmer (HP)	378	...	9.0	3.2	17.4
159	171	Burtonwd Brw	148	...	4.4	4.0	10.6
291	194	Devenish (JA)	273	-1	7.8	3.8	—
107	68	Eldridge P 'A'	96	-1	...	4.5	25.4
84½	47	Fosters Brewing	65	-3½	...	4.2	—
440	340	Fullr Sm 'A'	340	...	...	2.6	14.3
518	360	Grand Met	456	+1	12.3	3.6	15.0
424½	283	Greenalls Grp	397	+1	11.2	4.0	13.2
530	405	Greene King	528	+2	11.6	2.9	13.7
644	440	Guinness	441	-6	10.8	3.3	12.6
346	245	Hardy Hanso	257	...	7.9	4.1	14.3
145	113	Heavitree	113	...	3.0	3.6	—
105	78	-do- 'A' LV	78	...	...	5.2	10.9
305	191	Highland Distl	284	+1	6.0	3.0	17.6
46	21	Hoskins Brew	40	...	...	...	28.8
335	250	Invergordn Dist	265	+1	6.5	3.3	14.9
220	151	Macallan-Glen	173	...	0.7	0.6	34.9
630	380	Macdn Marm 'A'	435	...	8.8	2.7	13.7
720	515	Mansfield	702	...	13.6	2.6	15.1
269	166	Marston Thmp	240	...	4.9	2.7	14.1
477	394	Matthew Clark	425	-4	15.7	4.9	12.7
351	195	Mrrydwn W	268	...	...	3.1	19.3
493	320	Morland	485	...	8.4	2.3	19.3
10½	5½	Paramounts	9½	...	...	2.1	16.4
1020	665	SA Breweries	948	...	...	2.8	—
492	380	Scot & New	442	+1	16.1	4.9	12.0
200	145	Taunton Cider	187	...	...	3.4	17.5
231	148	Vaux Group	222	...	9.3	5.6	15.3
251	165	Wetherspoon JD	251	+1	...	2.3	20.9
499	347	Whitbread 'A'	464	-3	16.9	4.9	13.1
1436	1073	-do- 'B'	1073	...	16.9	2.1	30.2
660	518	Wolvrhmptn D	580	...	11.4	2.6	18.3
545	455	Young 'A'	510	...	14.5	3.8	22.3

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
95	60	Abbey	88	-5	...	1.6	31.7
27	9	Albrighton	17	...	...	...	...
128	54	Allen	105	-1	...	6.3	10.8
182	53	Amec	87	+2	10.2	...	8.0
27	2½	Anglia Sec	9	...	...	...	...
192	85	Ashtead	180 ↑	-2	4.1	3.1	22.5
151	105	Attwoods	123	...	5.0	5.4	17.8
238	123	BPB Ind	215	...	...	4.7	54.7
102	50	Baggeridge Brk	76	...	3.1	5.5	25.5
51	15	Bailey (Ben) Con	31	...	0.5	2.4	...
118	68	Barcom	87	-1	1.3	1.9	15.8
130	34	Barratt Devs	129	+4	2.8	2.1	14.4
383	205	Bellway	350 ↑	-9	11.5	4.1	21.4
32	14	Bellwinch	25	...	...	...	...
361	186	Berkeley Gp	360	...	5.0	1.9	23.8
200	45	Bett Bros	45	...	...	...	1.8
98	27	Blockleys	41	+1	3.3	...	40.7
264½	121	Blue Circle	250	...	11.2	6.5	23.0
265	149½	Boot (Henry)	265	...	...	2.7	14.5
109	62	Breedon PLC	92	...	4.6	6.7	17.8
133	66	Br Dredging	99	+1	7.4	10.0	12.9
180	42	Brit Fittings	58	...	3.3	...	...
126	60	Bryant	128	+2	4.8	5.0	27.4
90	38	CALA	60	...	2.3	5.1	...
249	110	CRH	237	-6	...	4.0	—
48	14	Cakebread Rby	33	-2	...	...	...
82	18½	Costain	27½	...	4.7	...	...
143	51	Countryside	120	...	4.1	4.6	31.7
66	23	Crest Nicholson	54 ↑	+1	0.0	...	...
58	14	Cussins	46	...	...	...	...
6	½	Dencora	2½	...	...	...	9.4
45	12	Edmond Hldgs	23	...	1.8	...	...
211	132	Epwin	180	...	...	4.9	14.8
54	23	Erith	32	...	2.0	...	...
306	220	Eve Groups	305	+5	...	4.2	11.0
88	25	Evered Bardon	41	+1	5.6	...	22.1
19	3	Explaura	4½	...	...	...	...
136	68	Freeman Gp	102	...	...	...	...
71	40	Galliford	47	+1	4.3	12.2	18.9
96	75	Gibbs & Dandy	75	...	...	...	10.8
925	578	Gleeson (MJ)	730	+5	12.7	2.3	10.8
114	67	Hewden-Stuart	92	...	3.1	4.6	19.2
85	28	Hewetson	47 ↑	...	2.6	...	46.8
28	15	Hey & Croft	16 #	...	...	...	...
208	138	Heywd Wlm	200	+4	12.5	8.3	18.4
106	29	Higgs & Hill	63	-1	9.0	...	9.5
39	23	How Gp	31	...	2.5	...	10.7
30	18	Howard Hldgs	18	...	0.5	3.7	...
96	36	Ibstock Johnsen	55	+1	6.0	...	...
34	16½	Jarvis	18	...	0.5	...	...
240	109	Laing (J)	190	...	9.0	6.1	10.3
35	3½	Lilley	7¼	...	2.0	...	2.4
122	70	Ln Clydeside	70	...	4.5	8.6	26.4
26	4½	Lovell (Y)	19½	+1	...	...	8.9
302	180	Manders	297	-1	7.0	3.1	28.7
148	57	Marley	107	+1	4.2	5.2	27.0
97	47	Marshalls	73	+3	...	3.1	24.4
155	101	McAlpine (Alfred)	122	...	4.9	5.2	11.2
219	76	McAlpine (A)	126 ↑	+8	6.5	6.4	—
75	19	McCarthy & S	33	...	0.5	6.1	...
433	181	Meyer Int	325	-1	16.5	6.8	33.4
14	4	Miskin Gp	4	...	...	...	...
171	52	Mowlem (J)	87	...	10.3	...	...
78	18	NSM	73	...	...	...	...
165	90	Newman Tnks	128	...	...	8.3	—
327	146	Persimmon	229	+4	8.6	5.0	18.9
36	19	Phoenix Timber	28	-1	...	...	...
1625	1150	Pochins	1475	...	20.0	2.7	8.8
155	66	Prowting	90	+1	3.4	5.0	...
23	3½	Quiligotti	5½	...	...	...	...
669	383	RMC Gp	617	+5	20.0	4.3	23.0
137	67	Raine Ind	102	+1	6.0	8.0	16.7
96	20	Ransom	23	...	...	...	...
565	300	Redland	481	-5	25.0	6.9	28.9
101	61	Rustel	72	...	4.3	8.0	9.6
248	152	Rugby Group	226	+3	6.4	3.8	16.9
48	25	Swift-Reve	33	...	...	...	5.9
98	50	Sharpe & Fisher	81	+1	4.0	6.6	...
143	70	Sheffield Insl	143	...	5.4	5.0	32.0
90	53	Sheriff Hldgs	89	...	...	3.0	13.3
86	53	Shanco	83	-1	...	8.4	12.8
272	188	Smart (J)	235	-3	8.6	5.0	10.2
15	4½	Starmin	5½	+½	0.3	7.3	0.6
161	51	Tarmac	114	+2	5.5	6.4	47.1
236	120	Tay Homes	186	...	5.8	4.2	10.3
143	34	Taylor Woodrw	88	...	9.5	...	12.4
688	398	Tilbury Dougls	532	...	33.0	8.3	17.5
48	18	Torex Hire	28	+1	...	2.2	...
228	105	Travis Perkins	185	+1	8.0	5.8	26.2
58	20	Try Group	31	...	6.0	...	4.2
38	28	Tudor	36	...	...	...	...
106	45	Vibroplant	86	+1	3.6	7.3	12.1
55	12	Ward Hldgs	34	...	...	...	...
43	23	Waterhouse	36	...	...	...	...
475	265	Watts Blake	434	...	9.3	2.7	23.6
19	8	Wescol	13	...	...	...	...
129	45	Westbury	119	+1	...	3.4	...
18	6½	West Scaffold	9½	...	...	...	...
22	2	Wiggins	5	...	...	...	...
481	215	Wilson Bowdn	377	...	8.7	3.1	19.3
221	96	Wilson (C)	161	+4	3.0	3.3	25.5
189	65	Wimpey G	139	+2	...	5.0	53.4
81	25	YRM	29	...	4.0	...	3.3

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
615	343	ADT	615	+40	...	...	—
248	193	Adam & Harvey	223	-5	11.0	6.6	3.5
127	53	Air London	85	...	...	5.5	10.5
63	34	African Lakes	47	...	2.0	5.7	9.3
162½	81	Amro Sec	161	+10	4.9	4.1	13.1
208	80	BET Ord	94	...	...	9.2	13.8
100	41	BNB Res	67	...	4.9	9.8	7.9
318	208	BPP	310	...	6.9	3.0	17.5
285	178	Barbour Index	275	...	7.2	3.5	20.4
70½	13	Boustead	17	...	0.7	5.5	34.8
231	111	Brit Data Mgt	205	-10	...	2.6	17.1
14	9	Broadcastle	14	...	...	...	...
101	58	Brooks Service	85	+2	4.0	...	20.7
142	72	CRT Gp	97	+1	2.4	3.3	11.1
484	262	Capita Group	483	-1	6.3	1.6	—
36	19	Caskey Plc	33½	+2½	0.5	2.0	12.7
270	25½	Chiltern Capital	55	...	...	...	...
39	22	Christie	28	...	...	...	...
282	180	Chubb Sec	279	+4	...	1.3	30.8
43	18	Comaca	32	...	...	...	...
31	5½	Corp Services	17½	+½	...	...	...
123	48	Dart	75	...	3.3	5.9	8.5
221	145	Davis Service	221	+4	7.9	4.8	16.8
115	85	EW Parts	97	...	...	5.9	7.2
57	8	Gardiner	13	-½	1.3	13.3	4.0
48	20	Gardner (DC)	27	+5	...	...	...
246	163	Hays	227	...	4.6	2.7	22.3
251	167½	Hogg Robinsn	198	+1	6.3	4.2	14.9
149½	43	Holmes Protectn	68	...	...	...	4.0
162	98	Hutch Whamp	160	...	...	...	17.2
£114¼	6837½	ISS B DKr	£107½	+50	...	1.0	15.2
613	375	Inchcape	613	+13	12.5	2.7	28.1
785	561	Johnson Clean	785	...	25.7	4.4	16.3
18½	2½	Lep	9½	...	...	...	...
244	168	Mitie Gp	224	...	2.7	1.6	18.5
1187	682	Manpower	1139	+28	...	...	...
44½	32½	Michael Page	44	...	1.8	5.5	12.2
251	88	Pennas	251	...	...	1.1	63.6
5½	2	Prime Peoples	3½	...	...	...	...
398	68	Proudfoot Alex	104	+1	19.5	25.0	2.2
453	355	RCO	410 ↑	...	12.8	4.5	14.1
183	117	REA	117	...	4.0	4.6	...
81	48	Reed Executive	54	...	...	...	...
165	117	Reliance Secs	145	...	...	4.1	14.6
13	4	Rentaminster	4 #	...	...	...	...
234	134	Rentokil	234	+4	1.6	1.0	34.4
273	180	Rolfe & Nolan	270	-2	6.2	3.1	18.1
399	234	Salvesen (C)	390	+1	7.0	2.4	21.6
43	25	Scott Pickford	35	...	...	3.0	9.6
206	98	Securiguard	198	-1	9.4	6.3	10.5
12	1½	Select Appt	3½	...	...	...	...
853	555	Serco Gp	853	+43	14.0	2.2	—
352	132	Sherwd Cmps	377	-13	...	2.5	8.5
157	82½	Shenkley	115	...	3.0	3.5	14.0
360	270	Warner Howrd	353	...	5.9	2.2	19.9
81	40	Welpac	40	...	0.6	2.0	...
22	7	Wills Gp	21½	+½	...	0.6	29.4

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	162	Allied Colloids	242	...	3.9	2.1	19.2
731	413	Amersham	724	...	12.5	2.3	26.8
31½	4½	Anglo Utd	4½	...	0.8	...	...
9900	7362½	BASF DM	9712½	-150	...	8.1	...
266	201	BTP	266	+2	8.8	4.4	19.5
£119	9050	Bayer DM50	£114½	-150	...	4.9	...
248	126	Blagden	138	...	9.5	9.2	9.9
165	115	Brent Chems	165	+9	7.4	6.2	—
530	418	Br Bio-Tech	480	...	...	...	...
95	13	Caird Gp	23½	...	2.5	14.7	5.9
179	112	Canning (W)	146	...	2.2	6.7	11.7
616	371	Courtaulds	599	+9	13.0	2.9	16.3
270½	142	Croda	257	+2	7.5	3.9	19.5
211	152	Ellis & Everard	188	...	7.0	5.0	17.1
19	7	Euro Colour	19	+½	0.6	4.6	...
139	43	Evode	138	...	3.5	3.5	—
281	171	Halstead (J)	281	...	...	2.8	15.0
227	158	Hickson	224	+1	7.8	4.7	14.3
£114½	7537½	Hoechst	£107½	-250	...	7.3	...
1410	975	ICI	1233	+43	...	6.1	32.2
687	434	Laporte	680	-3	18.9	3.7	18.3
338	138	Leigh	206	-2	7.8	5.1	16.8
290	11	MTM	14½	+1	1.8	...	...
1687½	1500	Norsk Hydro	1625	...	...	1.8	—
415	360	Paterson Zoch	415	...	11.4	3.7	17.9
395	335	-do- 'A'	373	...	11.4	4.1	16.1
301	231	Plysu	263	+1	6.0	3.0	17.7
206	138	Porvair	200 ↑	-1	3.6	2.4	—
13	4½	Sutcliffe Speak	10½	+1	...	...	...
475	339	Wardle Storeys	430	+1	16.0	5.0	17.3
445	220	Wlmshirst R	445	+2	14.3	4.9	19.6
390	245½	Yorks Chem	384 ↑	+6	...	2.2	30.6
295	214	Yule Catto	295	...	5.4	2.4	17.9

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
382	63	Alexon	88	+6	...	4.5	4.8
109	23	Amber Day	54	+1	3.1	7.2	14.8
306	190	Argos Plc	281	+5	6.4	3.0	19.5
99	57	Ashley (Laura)	74	...	0.1	0.2	77.4
305	180	Asprey	293	...	...	2.2	23.8
340	180	Austin Reed	195	...	6.0	...	56.8
159	112	Beattie (J) 'A'	148	...	5.7	5.2	14.1
144	74	Bentalls	119	+3	3.8	4.3	67.1
266	86	Benetware	250	+10	...	0.7	34.4
114	22	Blacks Leis	25	...	3.3	...	5.2
371	133	Body Shop	160	+7	1.6	1.3	18.5
15½	3	Brown & Jackson	15½	+½	...	...	...
363	260	Brown (N)	363	+6	6.0	2.2	22.5
80½	29	Burton	76	...	3.6	...	...
320	126	Cantors	143	...	...	2.5	18.9
358	245	Church	305	...	12.5	5.5	25.1
151	58	Clinton Cards	151	+10	3.7	3.3	...
231	151	Coats Viyella	225	+2	7.0	4.1	25.8
163	77	Colourvision	99	...	...	...	16.7
444	300	Courts Furnish	444	+8	5.0	1.5	22.3
252	100	Crown Eyes	140	...	...	5.7	6.5
111	65	Dairy Farm Intl	105	+4	...	...	17.0
57	27½	Dewhirst (D)	56	...	0.7	1.7	18.6
286	179	Dixons Grp	223	+3	6.0	3.6	26.2
495	355	Dunhill	360	...	7.7	2.9	12.5
33	12½	ERA Gp	13	...	...	...	6.0
780	406	Elys (Wimbldn)	400	...	16.0	5.3	8.9
115	36½	Essex Furn	114	...	...	3.3	19.1
258	199	Etam	225	-1	6.6	3.9	20.1
558	340	Fine Art Dev	548	+4	11.0	2.7	21.0
80	26	Fired Earth Tiles	42	...	4.0	...	30.7
500	438	Forminster	498	...	12.5	3.4	10.4
44	5	French Conn	44	+2	...	...	...
75	31	Gabicci	39	-2	...	6.8	7.8
69	39	Gent SR	65	+5	2.0	4.2	18.9
41	18	Goldsmiths Gp	38	...	1.8	...	...
2600	1800	GUS	2600	+25	40.0	2.1	20.7
1728	1319	-do- 'A'	1696	+17	40.0	3.1	13.5
75	30	Hampden Grp	35	...	...	7.6	5.0
283	123	Harstone	149	-18	4.8	4.4	9.1
25	16½	Helene Plc	24	...	2.0	11.2	10.5
42	18	Heritage	40	...	...	...	...
58	25	Honeysuckle	55 ↑	...	...	2.4	7.8
168	130	Hse of Leroze	137	...	10.3	10.0	20.8
195	40	Jacques Vert	64	...	2.0	...	...
582	398	Kingfisher	543	-6	...	3.4	16.3
74	54½	Leslie Wise Gp	71 ↑	...	4.0	7.5	—
685	405	Liberty	658	...	7.2	1.5	44.8
373	162	Lloyds Chem	275	+9	5.5	2.7	10.8
152	90½	MFI	134	+7	...	3.7	17.9
348	268	Marks Spencer	340	+6	7.1	2.8	20.7
490	319	Menzies (John)	468	+1	10.0	2.8	15.6
140	110	Moss Bros	136	+1	5.0	4.9	26.2
159½	57	Next	149½	+2	0.7	0.7	28.9
85	15	Oliver (G)	19	...	1.0	...	...
230	120	Owlitane Intl	220	...	...	...	15.0
143	45	Pentos	50½	-½	2.7	7.3	6.0
278	202	QS Hldgs	270	+2	4.7	2.3	20.9
39	7	Ratners Group	17	...	2.4	18.8	...
35	10	Rhino Grp	31	+½	...	...	...
189	110	Sherwood Gp	160	-1	...	1.9	15.4
113	54	Sears	100	...	...	4.7	27.5
523	357	Smith WH 'A'	433	+12	13.4	4.1	15.3
29	4½	Specialeyes	7½	...	...	...	...
219	87	Storehouse	186	+2	5.0	3.6	...
256	153	T & S Stores	171	...	8.5	4.3	11.1
107	27	Tie Rack	107	+1	0.5	0.6	...
196	132	Time Products	192	+4	7.5	5.2	18.8
98	47	Usher (Frank)	98 ↑	...	...	6.8	7.7
45	23	Vival	43	-2	1.0	3.2	—
58	28	Wensum	40	...	...	...	7.1
104	53	Wickes	95	+2	...	...	...
70	28	Wld of Leather	58	...	...	...	68.2
205	102½	Wyevale	160	...	...	3.1	17.8
7	2½	Xtra-vision	3	...	...	...	3.0

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
103	45	AB Elect	66	...	...	...	...
197	128	ACT Group	169	...	4.5	3.6	16.6
238	105	Acal	238	...	...	3.3	19.9
162½	6	Acorn Compt	127	+4	...	...	...
480	299	Admiral	454	...	5.4	1.6	—
133	94	Alba	120	...	4.7	5.3	15.6
75	7	Alphameric	30	...	...	...	...
44	19	Amstrad	27 ↑	+½	0.4	...	...
141	83	App Holo	113	-5	...	...	...
22	12	Arlen	14	...	...	...	...
48	12	Astec	44½	...	...	...	...
292	218	Beales Hunter	267	+1	9.2	4.6	14.1
7	1½	Bennett & Fount	6	+½	...	...	...
374	207	BICC	386	+21	...	7.3	28.1
575	314	Blick	525 ↑	...	9.2	2.3	20.4
4575	1150	Borlands	1500	+75	...	...	...
353	208	Bowthorpe	287	...	6.0	2.8	19.6
435	305	BT	434½	+11½	14.4	4.4	16.2
9	5	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	8½	...	0.1	1.6	...
226	80	Burnfield	133	...	5.7	5.9	—
750	489	Cable Wireless	743	+5	13.2	2.4	22.0
14½	4½	Chloride	14½	...	...	...	...
104	62	Clarke T	82	...	6.5	10.8	11.8
303	205	CML Micro	251	+2	...	2.4	16.5
116	62	Comptr People	89	...	5.4	...	11.5
151	60½	Cray Elect	133	-2	...	0.5	10.9
308	231	Critchley	308	...	...	2.6	21.3
506	331	Delta	463	+5	14.0	4.2	17.5
296	148	Denmans Ele	297	...	...	2.7	—
614	375	Domino	614	+8	7.2	1.6	21.0
66	43	Dowding Mills	57	...	2.5	3.8	18.7
1015	750	Drucke	978	+3	...	1.3	23.8
392	233	Electrocompnts	392	+7	7.0	2.4	21.2
545	286	El Data Pr	493 ↑	-2	5.1	1.4	13.5
75	28	Electron House	67	...	2.3	4.7	20.4
25	7	Ensea	19	...	1.0	...	...
350	282	Eurotherm	330	+3	8.0	2.0	24.1
128	51	FKI	126	+4	2.3	2.4	24.4
387	227	Farnell Elec	365	+2	5.8	2.1	19.9
18	16	Feedback	35	...	...	...	...
15½	3	Ferranti	15½	...	...	...	...
143	30	First Tech	143	+4	...	...	...
151	71	Forward Gp	150	...	...	2.3	18.1
28	10	Forward Tech	17½	...	...	...	...
307½	183	GEC	307	+11	9.6	4.2	18.2
227	102	Graseby	188	...	10.9	8.7	14.6
57	38	Hitchens	39	...	...	1.7	12.7
457	305	Hoskyns Gp	445	-1	2.4	0.7	—
135	65	INSTEM	109	+4	...	3.9	—
358	193	Jones Stroud	358	...	8.0	3.0	15.6
21	8	Kembrey	8	...	0.3	6.3	3.1
319	47	Kewill Sys	76	+2	...	...	3.8
167	92	Kode	150	...	...	3.6	10.8
46	8	Laser-Scan	36	...	...	...	...
264	49½	LBMS	233	...	...	...	...
315	240	Lec Refrig	263	...	14.5	6.8	21.6
179	125	Life Sciences	172	+1	3.3	2.6	19.1
232	120	Logica	178	...	3.6	2.7	25.6
55	45	LPA Ind	47	...	...	10.0	13.3
212	159	MR Data Mngmt	203	...	4.3	2.8	19.4
658	371	Macro 4	658	-10	...	2.6	21.9
604½	301	Memrex-Sw	380 ↑	...	...	2.0	19.2
3013	1453	Micro Focus	2340	-15	...	...	21.6
227	130	Microgen	226	...	7.3	4.3	—
35	13	Microvitec	31	...	...	...	...
574	201	Misys	408	...	6.1	1.6	22.7
147	40	Mitel	111	-10	...	...	...
138	78	MMT Compt	136	...	...	3.4	17.3
92	25	Molynx	25	...	4.0	21.3	2.4
373	202	MTL Inst	272	+2	...	1.7	16.9
165	82	Multitone Elect	143	+5	3.0	2.8	17.5
143	71	Murray Enter	142	...	1.8	1.8	—
6412½	3962½	NYNEX	6275	+25	...	...	...
188	115	Neotronics	183	...	2.6	1.9	23.6
63	32	Newmark (L)	47	...	...	...	...
90	33	Norbain	80	...	...	1.7	12.0
50	20	Northamber	41	...	0.5	1.6	...
17½	9	Oceonics	11	...	...	...	7.1
254	165	Oxford Inst	221	+3	4.3	2.6	14.9
137	46	P-E Internl	67	+1	0.2	...	...
68	16	P & P	54	-1	1.4	3.5	28.3
74	42	Peek	74	+1	3.4	6.1	21.0
190	85	Pegasus	179	...	...	4.8	—
9300	7000	Philips Fn 4%	9000	...	...	6.4	...
1187½	625	-do- Lmp nv	800	+50	...	...	...
452	310	Plico	436	-16	7.7	2.4	26.9
432	290	-do- 'A' Voting	416	-16	7.7	2.5	35.2
95	48	Plasmec	93	...	...	3.6	11.9
104	63	Prestac	95	...	2.4	3.4	18.5
220	65	Psion	111	-1	...	2.9	...
11	2	Ptarmigan	8	...	...	...	...
200	129	Racal Elect	190	-2	1.5	1.1	22.5
46	26	Radamec	46	...	0.5	1.4	22.0
70	25	Radius	64	-5	...	5.8	—
118	61	Real Time	64	+1	...	6.3	5.8
29	10	Riva	26	...	...	...	...
551	328	Sage Gp	551	...	9.0	2.2	17.7
66	44	Scantronic	65	...	2.9	6.1	20.5
142	42	Scholes Grp	135	...	5.0	4.9	26.5
340	179	Sema Gp	271	...	2.6	1.3	23.3
45	21	Silvermines	37	...	...	7.8	...
50	29	Soundtracks	40	...	...	7.3	13.5
2012½	1275	TDK	1775	-86½	...	1.6	18.7
8	3	TDS Circuits	6	...	...	...	...
127	30	Telemetrix	111	+8	0.6	0.7	38.7
888	633	THORN EMI	871	-11	30.1	4.6	22.4
111	68	Thorpe FW	110	...	2.5	3.0	11.3
103	33	Total Systems	85	...	2.2	3.5	15.2
429	190	Tunstall	420	...	6.0	1.9	18.8
240	123	Unitech	223	-4	5.8	3.5	39.0
24½	8½	Verity	8½	...	...	...	...
27	13	Vistec	27	+½	...	1.5	23.0
434	285	Vodafone	411	+12	...	1.9	20.2
441	249½	Volex	398	...	...	5.7	20.2
17	10	Western Selectn	17	...	...	...	...
287	153	Wholesale Ftgs	225	...	11.7	6.9	21.4

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
454½	273	East Midlands	453	+7	17.1	5.0	8.7
470½	266	Eastern Elect	468	+6	16.7	4.8	11.6
263	143	Hydro-Elect	249	...	10.1	4.2	11.3
468	288	London Elect	466	+9	16.8	4.8	9.0
527	334	Manweb	527	+12	18.2	4.6	7.6
496	287	Midlands Elec	493	+4	17.2	4.7	10.4
518	295	Northern Elec	517	+9	18.5	4.8	7.7
514	298	Norweb	513	+12	17.7	4.6	9.7
247	142	Scottish Power	232½	+3½	10.1	4.5	11.2
509	297	Seeboard	504	+5	17.2	4.6	9.1
542	313	Sth Wales	541	+4	19.4	4.8	8.6
494	293	Sth Western	489	+6	17.4	4.7	8.8
473	270	Southern Elec	471	+4	16.6	4.7	9.3
523	331	Yorkshire Elec	520	+9	17.7	4.6	9.7
320	188	National Powr	317	-1	9.1	3.8	10.5
322	196	PowerGen	321	+1	9.2	3.8	10.0

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
58	28	Aitken Hume	53	...	0.5	...	33.9
91	37½	BWD	67	+1	...	6.6	—
124	23	Baltic Plc	48	...	1.0	2.8	—
453	299	Caledonia	436	-1	14.4	4.4	16.7
1950	1050	Camellia	1400	...	27.0	2.6	11.8
280	203	Candover	248	...	9.5	5.1	20.5
91	48	Flemech	83	...	...	...	8.2
225	103	Govett	223	+14	...	6.2	6.5
135	97	Ivory Sime	133	...	...	6.3	14.1
6½	3½	LIT	6½	...	...	...	...
165	7½	Lightship	12 #	...	...	...	0.6
180	110	Lon Forfaitng	175	...	...	8.6	—
84	14	Manakin	76	...	...	...	...
10½	1½	Nat Home Loan	10	-½	...	...	...
47	24	Newmarket	45	...	...	...	...
260	170	Rathbone Brs	250	...	...	2.7	17.7
19½	9½	Rotland Tst	18	...	0.8	5.9	10.2
330	120	S & U	280	...	...	3.9	10.1
65	34	Singer & Fried	63	+1	2.5	5.3	13.8
938	575	Sothebys	900	...	...	4.6	...
99	73	STP Capital	98	-1	3.0	4.1	17.7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1775	1043½	Amer Express	1687½ ↑	-9½	...	...	...
233	149	Electra	228	+3	6.7	3.9	31.1
973	535	Henderson Ad	943	+10	41.0	5.8	20.8
115	50	Invesco MIM	115	+3	...	3.5	16.9
223	121	Jardine Strat	215	...	...	3.4	9.6
194	103½	MAI	189	...	6.0	4.2	13.7
469	244	MAM	439	+11	11.5	3.5	17.5
755	460	M & G	734	+8	20.0	3.5	20.1
148	81	Smith New Crt	147	+2	4.5	4.1	5.8
98	57	Sterling Tst	97 #	...	...	...	8.5
78	35	Tdo Hldgs	68	-1	...	5.9	...

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
515	362	AB Food	508	+2	14.0	3.7	11.6
66	21½	ASDA Group	64½	+1	...	3.3	20.9
225	75	Acatos & Hutch	223	...	6.5	3.9	12.9
83	31	Albert Fisher	68	+2	3.7	7.4	11.3
432	273	Argyll	370	+1	9.7	3.5	14.6
51	11	Ashley Group	21	...	0.7	4.8	...
147	108	Assoc Fisheries	134	...	7.0	7.0	24.7
200	143	Banks (S C)	200 ↑	...	8.2	5.5	10.0
346	200	Barr (AG)	345	...	6.5	2.5	—
117	74	Bensons Crsp	93	...	...	4.1	9.9
137½	50	Beresford Intl	128	+1	...	...	...
490	312	Booker	434	+5	21.7	6.7	13.2
44	28	Borthwick	37	+1	1.1	4.0	25.8
474	334	Brake Bros	431	+1	5.7	1.8	18.0
51	31	Budgen	45	...	...	...	15.3
490	412	Cadbury-Schw	453	+9	12.5	3.4	18.1
107	64	Carrs Milling	84	...	3.9	6.2	16.8
256	105	Clifford Fd 'A'	256	...	11.5	6.0	12.1
186	140	Cranswick	183	-2	...	5.5	13.5
38	8	Cullens	19½	...	0.5	3.4	10.5
435	290	Dalepak	294	-1	6.0	2.7	13.3
491	352	Dalgety	469	+2	19.5	5.6	13.4
54	27	Daniels S	35	...	0.2	1.0	38.2
132½	92½	Everest	125	+1	...	3.7	13.0
295	234	Farepak	288	...	...	2.3	20.4
16	3	Farringford	6½	...	...	...	...
92	53	Finlay (James)	83	...	4.1	6.7	15.5
95	68	Fyffes	88	...	...	1.8	12.0
448	249	Geest	448	+15	7.9	2.4	17.0
12	5	Global	11½	+½	...	5.8	10.5
49	34	Grand Central	43	...	1.1	3.6	...
180	81	Hazlewood Fds	177	...	6.1	4.6	10.7
200	68	Hillsdown	159	...	8.8	7.4	9.5
61	27	Hunter Saphir	43	...	2.5	...	...
694	412	Iceland Frozen	693	...	8.5	1.6	18.5
142	103	JLI Group	125	...	4.5	4.8	18.0
853	514	Kwik Save	834	+1	16.0	2.6	17.4
285½	169	Low (Wm)	243	...	8.4	4.6	11.8
74	29	Matthews (B)	49	...	4.5	...	10.4
33	9	Merchant Retail	15½	...	1.1	10.0	37.0
177	83½	Morrison (W)	160	-1	...	0.6	25.1
538	318	Nichols (JN)	538	+3	12.3	3.0	15.3
317½	215	Ntha Foods	280	+8	...	3.8	15.4
48	11	Nrthmbra Fns	19	...	...	...	7.9
193	132	Nurdin Peack	185	...	5.5	4.0	12.5
236	78½	Park Foods	236	+3	3.2	1.8	28.2
155	45	Perkins Food	92	...	4.3	6.2	8.0
96½	21	PizzaExpress	77 ↑	-1	...	0.9	44.3
301	130	RHM	275	...	...	6.7	14.0
3½	1½	Regina Hlths	3½	...	...	...	...
584	337	Sainsbury J	524	-1	8.7	2.2	19.5
61	33	Sentry Farm	40	...	...	3.3	9.3
340	175	Sims Food	220	-2	11.2	6.8	11.9
443	285	Tate & Lyle	433	+4	12.0	3.7	15.0
296	194½	Tesco	247	+4	6.3	3.4	11.7
211	152	Thorntons	210	...	3.6	2.3	19.6
163	83	Trendy	160 ↑	...	...	3.0	18.3
371	192	Unigate	371	+8	15.3	5.5	13.2
440	222	Utd Biscuits	379	-13	15.3	5.4	13.2
25	12	Usborne	22	...	0.4	2.4	13.5
357	205	Watson & Phil	313	...	13.3	5.7	16.3

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
23	16	Abrdn Stk Hs	16	...	...	...	...
89	52	City Centre Rest	86	+2	1.4	2.3	24.1
262	112	Forte	199	+2	9.9	6.6	...
240	94	Friendly Hotels	173	...	5.5	4.2	13.9
12	5	Harmony Leis	8	...	...	...	...
114	87	Jarys Hotel	87	...	...	7.0	10.2
267	126	Ladbroke	200	+7	11.1	7.4	16.5
73	37½	Mandarin Orntl	71	+1	...	4.8	18.7
92	26	Queens Moat	52	...	2.8	7.4	6.9
118	51½	-do- 7¾% cnpr	92½	+¼	7.5	10.8	...
2½	½	Regal Hotels	1½	-¼	...	...	...
89½	16	Resort Hotels	46	-4	3.4	10.0	9.0
759	420	Savoy Hotel 'A'	713	-12	7.0	1.3	...
48	23	Stakis	48 ↑	+1	...	1.3	...

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
224	135	AAF Inds	222	...	...	4.5	11.7
616	400	AAH	528	+2	16.3	4.1	16.8
208	122	AIM	147	-2	6.5	5.9	9.1
136	78	APV	120½	...	5.4	6.0	21.8
182	50	ASW	181	+4	6.0	4.5	...
152	86	Adwest	132	...	7.0	6.6	21.6
33	5	Aerospace Eng	12 ↑	...	1.0	...	7.3
468	253	Alsprung	465	+2	7.5	2.2	12.8
133	38	Alenda W	132	...	3.6	3.6	71.4
22	9	Allied Radio	9	...	...	...	...
505	358	Alumasc	505 ↑	+2	11.0	2.9	15.5
31	9	Alvis	31	+½	1.0	4.3	6.4
420	308	Amber Ind	420	...	17.0	5.4	11.3
36	13	Amberley Gp	30	+4	...	4.4	...
160	125	Andrews Sykes	145	...	4.4	4.0	...
893	503	Antofagasta	830	-20	...	2.3	20.3
50½	29½	Armour	44	+½	1.4	4.5	12.9
170	123	Ash & Lacy	170	...	4.4	3.0	14.0
3½	1½	Ass Br Eng	3½	...	0.0	2.1	...
555	300	Avon Rubber	554	...	16.5	4.0	—
195	103	Assoc Nursng	190	...	...	...	7.3
860	445	Atlas Equip	680	...	...	4.1	14.0
66	35	Ayrshire Metal	48	...	...	...	...
173	107	BBA	161	+2	7.5	6.1	21.1
53	24	BLP Group	28	...	...	...	...
417	49	BM Gp	65	-3	5.0	10.3	2.8
774	583	BOC	746	+2	21.2	4.1	16.4
76	51½	BSG	72½	-1½	3.2	5.9	19.6
422	296	BSS Group	409	...	...	5.6	16.3
584	381	BTR	583	+12	16.5	3.8	20.5
221	115	BWI	219	...	6.7	4.1	24.1
70	26½	Babcock	37	+1½	3.1	...	7.7
7½	3½	Bailey (CH)	7½	...	...	...	...
270	195	Baird (Wm)	265	+4	8.9	4.5	17.0
1037½	550	Barlow Rand	681½	...	...	5.6	3.5
43	7	Barrett (H)	7 #	...	2.0	...	16.2
63	37	Baynes (Charles)	61	...	1.3	3.0	19.5
35	5	Beauford	8	+2	1.8	...	...
18	5	Beckenham	7½	...	...	8.9	...
31	10	Bedford (W)	27	...	...	...	...
27½	13	Benson Group	25 ↑	...	0.1	0.5	23.1
687	444	Bespak	687	...	9.0	1.7	21.4
181	109	Bibby (J)	127	+3	9.7	10.8	7.1
230	84	Billam (J)	226	-4	5.0	3.0	—
55	28	Bilston Barsen	32	...	...	...	19.0
27½	3½	Bimec Ind	11½	+½	0.6	...	...
43	30	Black Arrow	37	...	2.1	7.6	8.8
1½	½	Black & Edgtn	1½	...	...	...	...
180	109	Black (Peter)	173	...	2.9	2.3	17.7
185	32	Bluebird Toys	172	+4	...	...	...
539	361	Bodycote	526	...	9.2	2.3	18.6
571	398	Boots	511	+7	12.4	3.2	19.2
84	40	Booth Inds	46	-4	3.2	9.3	4.8
516	298	Bowater	516	+5	...	3.0	25.6
1682	905	Bowater Inc	1537 ↑	+17	...	...	...
229	126	Boxmore Inds	227	...	...	3.0	21.9
20	13	Brasway	14½	...	0.5	5.3	18.7
274	186	Brammer	249	+1	13.0	7.0	17.1
33	11	Bridgend Gp	15	...	1.2	...	6.8
103	34	Bridon	87	+8	4.0	...	...
82	38	Bridport-Gndry	65	...	4.1	8.4	12.2
40	23	Brierley Inv	30	-1	...	8.1	9.6
543	298	Br Bldg & Eng	298	...	...	...	...
47	36	Br Bloodstock	42	...	...	...	...
488	348	Br Polythene	488	+5	9.0	2.5	14.8
88	43½	Br Steel	85½	-½	...	1.6	...
120	88	Br Syphon	120	...	3.0	3.3	35.6
14½	9	Br Thornton	13½	...	...	2.5	...
294	212	Br Vita	256	+2	...	3.7	16.9
13	5½	Brixton Grp	12	+½	...	...	...
719	429	Broken Hill	694	-19	...	2.6	31.0
128½	67	Bromsgrve Ind	104	+1	4.0	5.1	14.3
15	3	Brooke Tool	8	-½	...	...	...
83	38	Brown & Tawse	53	...	4.7	...	...
174	63	Bullough	106	-3	6.0	7.8	17.8
37	13	Business Techn	21	...	...	...	25.5
35	12	CI Group	22	...	2.0	12.4	9.0
66	14	Campbell & Arm	24	...	2.0	...	...
30	2	Cannon St	12½	...	3.3	...	...
238	161	Cape	238	...	10.5	5.9	15.2
202	130	Carclo Eng	201	...	7.8	5.2	16.9
2605	1675	Carnaud Mtl	2468	+18	...	3.4	8.3
80	55	Cassidy Bros	72	...	...	4.4	8.0
195	118	Castings	158	...	4.0	3.4	11.3
140	90	Chamberlin Hill	130	+5	6.0	6.2	7.8
707	467	Charter Cons	649	+1	21.5	4.4	15.6
270	176	Chemring	254	...	...	4.3	15.3
120	74	Chieftain Gp	74	...	...	8.8	8.2
39	18	Chillington	25	...	0.5	2.7	...
170	90	Christies Int	156	...	3.3	...	...
53	33	Claybithe	48	...	2.5	6.9	...
140	80	Clayton Son	85	...	3.0	4.7	...
7	½	Co Designers	7 #	...	0.2	...	...
400	255	Cohen (A)	375	...	10.0	...	...
247	188	Community H	303	...	6.5	4.3	12.6
236	126	Concentric	236	...	...	3.2	18.8
335	88	Cook (Wm)	167	+12	10.0	...	11.2
213	103	Cookson	211	+2	6.0	3.8	29.4
60	35	Copymore	45	...	...	9.0	8.6
240	176	Crowll Fkr 'A'	211	...	5.7	3.6	15.9
178	118	Cosair	168	...	10.7	8.5	25.7
250	180	Creighton Nts	210	...	...	4.4	15.2
33	20	CrestaCare	33	+2	0.7	2.8	21.3
3456¼	1456¼	Dana	3093¼	-18¼	...	...	...
675	168	Danka Bs Sys	675	+15	3.7	0.7	20.8
14	5	Davies (DY)	14	...	...	...	...
707	474	De La Rue	680	-1	15.0	2.9	20.8
25	10	Dinkie Heel	23	-1	0.9	5.5	11.0
444	263	Diploma	436	...	9.7	3.1	22.2
88	43	Dobson Park	61	...	5.7	12.6	11.0
304	90	Dyson (J&J)	97	...	5.0	6.9	13.9
66	54	-do- 'A'	65	...	5.0	10.3	9.3
18	8	EFG	17	...	...	...	...
430	355	EIS	408	-1	11.7	3.8	15.2
29	9½	EIT Gp	9½	...	...	...	...
26	16	Elbief	22	...	...	...	...
57	23	Eleco	23	...	3.3	...	13.5
2700	1550	Electrolux 'B'	2062½	+9½	...	2.9	—
480	45	Elliott (B)	64	...	...	...	...
603	330	Eng China Cl	457	+7	20.8	5.8	15.7
2200	900	Ericsson 'B'	2162½	...	...	1.5	—
91	49	Erskine Hse	49	-1	6.6	18.1	5.1
101	29	Eurocopy	40	...	1.6	5.3	15.5
158	29	Expamet	61	-3	10.3	...	7.2
578	302	Fairey Group	578	+7	9.0	2.1	19.2
108	64	Fenner	87	...	4.2	6.4	16.4
61	18	Ferraris Group	54	...	...	2.5	12.3
1½	½	Ferromet	1½	...	...	...	...
51	19	Ferrum	28	...	2.5	11.9	7.6
81	33	Fife Indmar	33	...	4.9	...	4.4
403	143	Fisons	219	-3	...	5.4	22.9
61	28	Fitzwilton	33	...	...	15.3	...
255	200	Flogas	340 ↑	...	...	4.2	9.8
56	39	Folkes Group nv	42	...	2.3	7.5	8.5
74	42	French (Thomas)	68	...	3.6	7.1	34.1
198½	96	Frost Group	195 ↑	+1	...	0.5	37.7
115	63	GEI Intl	82	...	7.3	11.9	16.9
482	281	GKN	476	+5	20.5	5.7	30.4
93	40	GR Hldgs	46	...	...	6.0	...
130	84	Garton Eng	84	...	7.0	...	...
162	93	Gestetner	137 ↑	+2	8.2	8.0	6.0
58	21	Gieves	27	...	...	...	19.5
943	632	Glaxo	678 ↑	-17	17.0	3.3	18.7
24	14	Glenchewton	24	...	...	...	...
282	183	Glynwed	282	+9	11.6	5.5	27.7
97	63	Goode Durrant	85	+2	5.4	8.5	18.0
199	79	Grampian Hd	109	+1	5.5	6.7	14.1
400	192	Granada	388	-5	7.7	2.6	20.7
325	245	Great Sthrn	325	...	...	4.1	14.0
125	75	Green (Ernst)	82	...	...	11.4	11.3
11	6	Greenacres	10	...	...	3.3	10.7
20	6	Guardian Grp	11	...	...	...	...
125½	23	Haden MacLn	41½	+1	8.0	...	6.6
83	43	Hadleigh Inds	74	-1	...	...	...
169	97	Hall Eng	145	+1	8.6	7.9	13.0
254	148	Halma	252	+3	2.2	1.2	31.2
55	29	Hampson Ind	38	...	2.3	...	10.3
265½	184½	Hanson	252½	...	...	6.0	12.9
241	138	Harris (Philip)	239	...	6.2	3.5	16.6
173	104	Harrisn Cstld	173	+4	9.0	6.9	29.8
99	32	Havelock Euro	46	+3	1.5	...	...
4½	1	Bawthorn Lse	2½	...	...	...	...
51	17	Hay (Norman)	41	...	1.1	...	...
28	15	Headway	23	...	0.7	4.1	12.1
437	211	Hepworth	341	+3	14.8	5.8	13.5
190	116	Hewitt (J)	182	...	3.0	2.2	—
283	15	High-Point	15	...	1.3	11.6	...
147	89	Hill & Smith	128	...	6.0	6.3	—
10	3	Hobson	8½	...	...	...	...
104	69	Holders Tech	104	...	...	7.8	14.0
80	24	Hopkinsons	38	...	3.7	...	11.0
232	138	Hornby	143	+1	...	8.4	11.2
33	6½	Hospital Crp	11	...	...	9.7	3.0
69½	30½	Howden	63 ↑	+2	...	4.6	9.7
233	149	Hunting	232	...	10.0	5.7	18.1
950	285	Huntigh Tech	838	...	...	0.7	30.9
306	210	IMI	221	+9	10.0	4.9	18.7
96	49	ISA Intl	96	...	1.3	1.9	18.5
205	127	Intercare Gp	199	...	...	1.7	21.0
266	175	Isotron	245	...	3.9	2.2	15.6
498	259	Jardine Math	489	-12	...	2.3	14.1
537	317	Johnson Matth	468	+6	9.6	2.7	19.4
73	44½	Johnson & FB	54	...	3.0	7.4	16.7
207	111	Johnston	111	...	9.0	...	52.3
62	14	Jones Shipman	25	+1	...	...	...
35	19	Jourdan (T)	19	...	1.5	10.5	...
49	26	Kalamazoo	37	...	...	...	30.5
150½	73	Kalon	150½	+8½	3.2	2.9	—
458	253	Kelsey Ind	288	...	13.0	6.0	...
550	450	Kenshaw (A)	525 ↑	...	27.0	6.9	27.2
108	44	Kleeneze	95	...	...	...	...
90	30	LGW	90	...	...	1.2	31.3
343	229	Laird	275	+1	...	4.9	13.3
136	65	Lee (Arthur)	125	+3	5.9	6.3	53.1
135	86	Lilleshall	135	...	4.2	4.3	—
126	71	Linear	126	...	...	5.4	17.9
15	3	Lincoln Hse	14	...	...	...	11.5
128	61	Linread	102	...	3.5	...	14.4
193	120	Linton Park	185	...	13.0	9.4	32.4
36	10½	Lionheart	13½	...	0.3	3.0	14.0
19½	10	Locker (T) A	18	...	1.0	7.4	56.7
316	157½	Lon Intl	228	+2	9.4	5.5	15.5
180	57	Lonrho	86½	-1	...	6.2	...
325	218	Low & Bonar	325	+2	9.1	3.8	—
323	200	MB-Caradon	321	+5	8.5	3.5	25.2
159	108½	-do- pf	159	+1	7.2	6.1	...
49	12	ML Hdgs	19	...	1.8	...	18.3
39	19	MS Intl	34	...	2.5	9.8	47.5
50	31	MY Holdings	48	...	...	4.8	13.3
265	171	Macfarlane	264	+1	4.2	2.1	25.0
401	230	McKechnie	400	+1	14.7	4.9	20.9
119	72	McLeod Russel	99	+9	6.0	8.1	12.1
12½	6½	Maddox	9½	...	...	...	...
93	55	Magnolia	69	...	5.4	...	48.5
98	66	Mang Bronze	75	...	1.0	1.8	...
24½	15	Marling	24	+2	0.3	...	...
174	87	Mayborn	174	+2	...	3.2	14.9
51	29	Mayflower	48	...	...	1.1	23.7
301	150	Medeva	213	...	1.5	0.9	21.1
108	66	Meggitt	94½	...	3.6	5.1	14.1
123	90	Metalrax	116	...	...	4.1	15.3
137	68	Metsec	75	...	...	6.7	...
59	27	Midstates	59	+3	...	6.8	9.6
22½	14	Mining & Ald	17½	...	0.5	3.8	...
435	295	Molins	435	+8	12.7	3.9	11.6
345	229	Morgan Cble	326	+2	12.6	5.2	15.9
145	79	Morris Ashby	134	...	...	4.7	11.7
31	14	Neepsend	26	...	1.5	...	...
75	34	Nesco-BNA	47	...	3.1	8.9	7.7
137	68	Nobo Gp	137	+8	3.5	3.4	16.7
164	62	Norcros	142	+2	7.0	6.6	34.3
81	26	Novo Group	39	...	...	1.0	...
485	310	Nu-Swift	311	-2	...	8.6	8.6
53	31	Office Elec Mae	47	...	0.1	0.3	...
49	10	OMI Intl	31	+½	1.7	7.5	...
155	133	PCT	133	...	...	7.0	12.1
51	47	Pacer Systems	48	...	...	1.9	...
147	94	Pentland	121	...	2.2	2.5	17.4
380	260	Photo-Me	378	...	4.4	1.6	19.3
169	67	Pilkington	111	+1	6.0	7.2	40.4
34	19	Plessey	27	...	...	...	...
79	39	Plantabrook	78	...	...	5.1	11.4
147	93	Polypipe	147	...	1.9	1.8	22.0
504	335	Portals	496	+1	13.8	3.7	16.1
65	18	Porter Chadburn	28 ↑	...	2.5	11.9	6.9
14	1½	Porth Gp	7½	...	...	...	...
363	204	Powerscreen	355	...	6.0	2.3	20.1
21	14½	Prospect Inds	19½	...	0.7	5.1	9.5
49	16½	RPS Group	42	...	...	...	14.0
100	70	Radiant Metal	90	...	...	...	...
148	31	Ramco Oils	145	+1	...	1.8	...
772	444	Rank Org	695 ↑	+19	31.0	5.9	19.0
39	6	Ransomes	25	...	...	...	...
709	523	Reckitt Colm	621	+2	15.1	3.2	14.2
100	40	Record	68	...	3.6	7.1	13.1
9½	2½	Reece	3½	...	...	...	13.1
166	105	Renron	169	...	4.9	3.9	22.0
313	248	Renishaw	281	...	6.5	3.1	21.5
68	44	Renold	57	...	1.0	2.3	...
1438	982	Reuters	1404	+8	...	2.0	23.3
37	27	Rexmore	27½	...	1.7	8.5	6.8
119	58	Ricardo Group	119	+1	5.7	6.4	30.6
81	50	Richards (Leics)	61	...	4.4	9.6	6.1
69	47	Richardson West	63	...	2.9	6.1	15.1
130	97	Ropner	126	...	8.2	8.7	9.0
122	95	-do- 'A'	117	...	8.2	9.4	8.4
47½	22	Ross Gp	34	...	0.4	1.8	18.7
445	258	Rotork	445	+6	10.0	3.0	20.6
135	85	Rubicon	122	...	...	1.6	...
100	54	Russell (A)	54	...	2.1	5.3	28.5
21	14	SEP Indl	19	...	0.6	4.0	—
1200	612½	SKF 'B'	712½	+12½	...	5.0	...
272	107	Sanderson Elec	252	...	9.0	4.8	10.7
56	32	Savage	40	-1	...	0.7	64.2
45	29	Saville Grdn (J)	42 ↑	...	3.2	7.0	16.0
246	156	Scapa	246	-2	5.3	2.9	20.0
245	158	Scholl	220	-3	6.0	3.6	15.8
17	2½	Scot Heritable	5½	...	...	...	...
990	648	Securicor	970	-5	2.6	0.4	—
666	409	-do- 'A'	636	-6	2.6	0.4	—
565	305	Security Serv	552	-6	9.0	1.3	—
94	58½	Senior Eng	92	-½	3.1	4.6	15.2
361	253	Seton Health	333	...	...	2.0	21.4
45	42	Sheldon Jones	45	...	...	...	...
146	83	Shiloh	88	-1	2.7	4.2	23.8
361	225	Sidlaw	330	...	10.0	4.0	15.3
500	355	Siebe	491	+7	...	2.5	20.7
393	165	Silentnight	293	+5	8.0	3.6	16.2
122	65	Sime Darby	116	-1	...	3.9	14.3
204	69	Simon Eng	116	...	15.7	18.0	15.3
390	196	Sinclair (Wm)	256	...	7.0	3.6	16.5
53	22	Sir Hundred	47	...	2.5	7.1	...
371	125	Smith & Neph	156	+1½	4.4	3.8	19.6
566	346	Smithkline	459 ↑	+3½	...	2.5	18.0
503	383	Smthkline Ue	400 ↑	+5	...	3.3	15.7
394	255	Smiths Ind	395	+4	11.2	4.2	14.5
80	75	Sthn Bus	80	-2	3.3	5.6	7.6
750	265	Spandex	315	...	...	2.5	16.0
410	330	Spear (JW)	410	...	10.8	3.3	12.6
346	231	Spirax-Sarco	345	...	9.0	3.5	20.6
191	87	Spring Ram	134	+2	0.2	0.3	17.7
220	156	Staveley	250	+4	8.2	4.4	14.2
147	102	Sterling Ind	147	...	5.6	5.1	18.4
17	13	Stonehill	13½	-½	...	...	...
148	73	Suter	145	+10	6.8	8.1	12.9
319	160	Swire Pacfc 'A'	315	+5	...	2.4	23.1
19	5	Syncrete	6	...	...	...	...
300	232	Sytone	252	...	...	...	...
198	98	T & N	195	...	9.4	5.0	11.6
372	251	TI	294	-1	10.8	7.6	35.9
25	10	TLS Range	14	...	10.2	4.6	15.8
275	167	TT Group	275	...	...	4.5	...
269	170	Takare	235	...	1.5	0.9	23.3
771	405	Takeda Chem	771	+9	...	0.6	20.5
44½	19	Tex Hldgs	31	+1	...	...	...
79	53	Tinsley (E)	77	-1	...	9.0	9.0
205	85	Triona	199	...	...	2.4	17.3
271	195	Tomkins	269	+7	...	3.1	18.9
152	36	Trafalgar H	78½	+1	...	5.5	5.7
156½	30½	-do- 'A'	76 ↑	+1½	...	...	...
514½	266	Transfer Tech	469	+15	...	3.7	12.9
170	127	Triplex Lloyd	170 ↑	+1	7.0	5.5	15.6
253	165	UniChem	236	+1	5.0	2.8	17.6
320	250	Unidare	310	...	...	6.6	11.6
24	8½	Unigroup	19	...	...	...	...
1236	866	Unilever	1208	-15	20.8	2.3	—
7975	5375	Unilever NV	7800	...	...	2.7	12.6
625	265	VSEL	595	...	25.0	5.6	6.8
15	2½	Verson	8	...	...	...	...
188	60	Vickers	125	...	6.0	...	28.3
409	260	Victaulic	365	-1	...	2.7	17.4
359	231	Vinten	357	-1	6.6	2.5	19.2
502	240	Vosper Thorny	496	+6	13.1	3.5	12.0
70	36½	WSP Hldgs	41	...	2.9	9.7	7.1
468	340	Wagon Ind	412	-2	...	5.5	15.9
78	45	Walker Greenbk	74	...	3.1	5.6	17.6
255	110	Wassall	235	+1	...	1.4	28.5
34	15	Watford Wdgwd	28	...	...	...	...
675	435	Weir	648	...	10.5	2.2	18.8
1174	777	Wellcome	891	-11	13.0	1.9	24.6
39	23	Wellman	23	...	2.2	...	8.6
488	390	Whatman	488	+3	8.7	2.4	17.6
339	201	Whessoe	332	+10	...	3.2	12.9
34	4	Whewav	9½	...	1.0	14.0	...
143	15	Whitecroft	38½	-½	4.0	...	4.1
12	3	Widney	7	...	...	...	...
197	44	Wilkes (James)	59	+3	10.0	...	3.2
379	222	Williams Hldg	360	...	12.3	4.6	18.2
24½	8½	Wilshaw	24½	...	0.4	2.2	20.1
595	287	Wolseley	558	+4	12.5	3.0	21.3
150	100	Wood (Arthur)	125	...	4.1	4.4	13.5
80	36	Wyko	38	...	2.8	...	21.7
70	38	Young (H)	47	...	3.0	8.5	17.2

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1993½	1025	Alex & Alex	1787½	+18½	...	3.8	...
2087½	1125	Am Gen	2025 ↑	+31½	...	3.7	...
66	27	Archer (AJ)	40	-1	4.4	14.7	19.5
168	83	Bradstock	139 ↑	...	5.1	4.9	17.1
1190	782	Britannic	1190	+17	29.5	3.3	...
624	389	Com Union	623 ↑	+15	...	5.2	...
1405	900	Dom & Gen	1405	+5	...	1.7	23.2
31	18	FAI	21	...	...	...	...
612	356	Gen Accident	600	+15	36.7	6.1	...
195	108	GRE	189	+1	7.0	5.1	...
477	212	Heath C E	369	+3	16.0	5.8	21.7
188	104	Hogg Gp	185	...	8.1	5.9	11.3
208	102	JIB Group	186	+1	...	5.4	13.7
482	287	Legal & Gen	481	+8	18.8	5.2	...
1026	557	Liberty Life	963 ↑	-15	...	3.0	—
465	295	Lloyds Abbey	441	+11	17.3	5.2	—
292	160	Lloyd Thomp	292	+2	5.6	2.6	21.5
332	203	Londn & Man	332	+2	13.5	5.5	25.5
362	224	Lowndes Lmb	351	-1	12.6	4.8	14.0
6743½	3931½	Marsh McLn	6437½	-31½	...	2.9	...
154	93	Oriel	95	...	...	7.0	7.0
81	30	PWS	59	...	4.0	9.0	—
335	199	Prudential	334	+6	11.0	4.4	29.0
948	504	Refuge	948	+20	29.0	4.1	42.5
301	118	Royal	300 ↑	+5	5.0	2.2	...
240	100	Sedgwick	162 ↑	+1	6.0	4.9	19.5
321	162	Steel Burrill	243	+5	13.2	7.3	15.4
232	53	Sturge Hldgs	68	+1	8.2	16.2	6.9
368	214	Sun Alliance	373	+7	14.2	5.7	...
61	20	Trade Indemnity	56	...	...	...	...
278	165	Transatlantic	273 ↑	...	12.0	5.9	—
620	305	Utd Friendly	620	+5	12.3	2.6	31.5
274	144	Willis Corroon	187	+2	13.2	9.4	21.0
21	13½	Windsor	13½	-1½	...	...	10.6

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1689	1216	Alliance	1688	+12	43.0	3.4	39.0
258	152	Altifer Trust	246½	+2½	4.9	2.7	—
335	229	Ang & O'seas	331 ↑	-3	6.8	2.8	—
136½	98½	BZW Conv	134	+½	7.8	7.6	15.7
150	104	Bankers	150	+2	3.4	3.1	41.2
298	210	Baring Tribne	283 ↑	+2	6.4	3.0	44.9
172	116	Berry Starq	145	...	2.0	1.8	49.0
108½	71½	Br Assets	104½	-1½	...	5.5	25.6
64½	40½	Br Empire Sec	64½	...	0.6	1.6	65.5
17	8½	-do- Wnts	16	...	...	...	...
171	123	Br Inv	168	+2	4.5	3.6	42.2
166	125	Contl Asset	161 ↑	...	2.4	2.0	53.6
230	148	Derby Inc	148	+6	16.0	15.0	—
235	140	-do- Cap	228	+10	...	...	...
119	65	Drayton Asia	116	+½	0.7	0.8	...
96	59	-do- Blue Chip	71	...	8.4	16.4	7.7
57	26	-do- Eng Ind	54	...	1.2	3.0	79.1
106	61	-do- Far East	103	...	0.6	0.8	...
101	56	-do- Korea	99	...	...	...	...
628	473	Dunedin Inc G	620	+5	25.4	5.6	—
574	407	-do- Wrdw	573	+1	9.5	2.2	59.0
276	203	Dundee & Lon	269	...	12.0	5.9	24.8
61	36	EFM Inc Tst	48	+1	4.8	13.5	8.6
55	40½	-do- Div Pf	52½	...	...	...	...
274	199	Edinburgh	263	+4½	8.0	4.1	32.1
154	107	Electric Gen	153	...	3.1	2.7	48.7
94	65	English Scot	94	-3	...	...	...
251	186	European Asset	251	-1	...	3.0	—
104	68	Finsbury 'A'	90	...	3.0	4.4	29.0
290	162	Fleming Amer	270	+1	0.7	0.3	...
411	302	-do- Claver	401	+3	10.7	3.6	—
262	173	Do Cotul	261	+2	2.8	1.4	...
162	119	-do- Emrg	161	+1	4.5	3.7	36.1
256	157	-do- F East	250	+1	1.5	0.8	...
297	198	-do- Fledg	297 ↑	+2	3.0	1.3	—
116	81	-do- Ft Inc	113 ↑	+1	5.8	6.8	19.2
164	100	-do- Japan	154	...	0.3	0.5	...
271	193½	-do- Merc	261	+1	6.7	3.4	37.3
242	165½	-do- O'seas	242	+1	4.0	2.2	37.8
225	150	Foreign & Col	225	+3	...	2.0	66.5
204	144	-do- Eurotst	204	+2	1.2	0.8	...
107	71	-do- German	106	...	0.4	0.5	...
226	134	-do- Pacific	226	+3	1.7	1.0	...
137½	79	-do- Smaller	135½	...	...	1.6	68.9
205	121	GT Japan	167	+2	...	0.9	...
109	49	Genl Cons Cap	102	+3	...	...	...
123½	96	-do- Inc	110	+1	...	10.2	11.4
145	83	Govett Am Smlr	129	+1	...	...	...
224	136	-do- Oriental	224	+4	0.8	0.5	...
240	150	-do- Strategy	240	+2	6.7	3.8	33.1
369	265	Greenfriar	367	+1	0.3	2.3	—
28	1½	Gresham House	5	...	...	...	...
53	31	Independent Inv	52	+½	0.5	1.3	...
132	95	Inv Cap	130	+1	5.1	5.2	26.1
95	67	I&S UK Smlr	90	+1	2.0	3.0	22.2
181	128	Kleinwort Cbrt	181	+1	5.0	3.7	35.2
201	134½	-do- O'seas	230 ↑	+3	3.3	2.2	—
126	85	-do- Smlr	117	...	...	4.6	23.1
585	433	Law Debenture	585	+6	...	4.0	30.7
170	137½	Majedie	170	...	...	3.7	32.9
246	176	Merchants	242	...	...	5.8	22.3
4925	2437½	Merrill Lynch	4662½	-6	...	...	...
430	296	Monks Inv Tst	430	+3	8.7	2.1	57.9
117	81	Murg Gren Inc	117	+1	...	5.2	23.2
30	13	Do Warrants	30	+1	...	...	...
46	33	Murray Euro	46	...	0.4	1.4	...
11	4½	Do Wts	10½	...	...	...	...
315	223	Murray Income	307 ↑	...	...	4.7	29.2
317	215	-do- Intl	313	+1	1.4	4.9	—
303	213	-do- Small	303	...	4.0	1.9	65.3
109	89	-do- S/C Inc	100	...	...	14.1	9.7
89	54	-do- S/C Cap	84	+2	...	...	...
3060	2250	-do- S/C Uts	2950	+50	...	4.8	...
147½	113	-do- S/C DP	144	...	...	...	...
258	189	-do- Vent	255	+1	10.3	5.4	20.1
71	44½	New Frontier	71	...	0.2	0.5	...
103	61	Nvtheg Inc	85	...	6.7	10.8	11.7
283	187	Otters Inv Tst	277	...	2.8	1.3	79.0
362	173	Pacific Assets	355	-1	1.1	0.4	—
264	80	Do Warrants	257	-1	...	...	...
8300	5700	Personal Assets	8100	...	...	2.6	45.4
118	82	RIT Cap Ptnr	115	+1	1.7	1.7	52.1
123	96	River & Merc	121 ↑	+1	9.2	10.1	—
388	273	Robeco	388	...	...	1.4	...
378	268	Rolinco	378	...	...	2.1	...
239	194	St Andrew Inv	237	...	7.5	4.2	—
145	108	Scot American	145	+2	4.3	4.0	30.7
935	439	Scott Asian	935	+42	...	...	...
71½	49	-do- Eastern	71½	+1	1.5	2.6	—
200	147	Scottish	197	+1	4.6	3.1	40.9
196½	135	-do- Mige	195	+2	3.9	2.7	45.9
77½	48	-do- Value	77½	...	...	7.1	57.2
1493	1066	Second Allnce	1473 ↑	+5	36.5	3.3	36.6
84	61	Secs Tst of Scot	94	+1	3.2	5.2	20.0
125	78½	Selective Asset	124 ↑	+1	1.2	1.3	46.6
20½	9½	Sphere Inv	20½	+1	...	20.2	5.6
139	76	TR Far East	137	+1	4.5	4.4	31.1
137	97½	TR City Of Lon	136	+1	4.7	4.7	28.2
141	70	TR Pacific	137	+1	0.3	0.3	—
24½	14½	TR Property	21½	+1½	1.4	...	61.2
69	18	TR Tech Inv	62	...	1.7	3.7	31.2
167	96	TR Smlr Cos	166	-1	3.7	3.0	48.6
315	236	Temple Bar	309 ↑	+2	13.2	5.7	23.3
90	51	Thrmtn Asian E	90	+1	0.5	0.7	...
60	39	Throgmorton	62½	+1	2.3	4.9	—
418	264	Throg Dual Cp	418	+8	...	...	...
191	137	USDC Invest	191	+1	4.2	3.0	36.6
89	58½	Value Inc Tst	86½	...	...	5.5	22.9
627	483	Whitbread Inv	561	-1	15.0	3.6	37.2
195	139	Witan	192	+1½	5.6	3.9	33.6

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
66½	2	Airbreak Leis	3½	...	...	...	0.7
337	172	Airtours	314	+6	7.2	3.1	11.1
86	17	Ald Leis	50 ↑	...	4.7	...	14.3
243	145	Anglia TV	238	...	...	4.6	20.6
217	135	Barr & W 'A'	204	...	10.0	6.5	10.2
1195	795	Boosey Hwks	1175	...	20.0	2.3	18.8
117	70	Border TV	100	...	...	3.6	13.1
16½	4	Brent Walker	11½	...	...	...	...
15	2½	Buckingham Int	5	...	2.1	...	1.2
448	200	Campari	279	+13	...	5.1	7.6
236	126	Capital Radio	194	+1	5.2	3.6	22.6
418	468	Carlton Comm	775 ↑	+6	...	2.9	22.7
223	120	Castle Comm	210	...	...	5.7	22.5
1625	1050	Central TV	1795	...	30.5	2.3	25.0
86	40	Chrysalis	73	...	...	...	...
605	405	Compass Gp	599	-2	12.3	2.7	17.0
350	273	Eurocamp	325	...	9.7	4.0	—
1693	673	Euro Disney	990	-10	...	1.3	...
10	1	Euro Leisure	5	...	...	...	9.2
36	11	Ex-Lands	20	...	...	...	...
446	110	Fairline Boats	260	+2	10.5	5.0	...
355	239	First Leisure	346 ↑	+1	6.1	2.4	23.4
515	250	GWR Gp	503	...	...	1.9	25.8
181	91	Grampian	173	...	7.5	4.2	12.2
8	5	Greenwich Comm	6	...	...	...	...
92	13	HTV Group	30	...	3.7	...	...
208	30	Hi-Tec Sports	55	-2	5.5	...	3.5
18½	2½	Kunick	6½	-½	...	...	...
336	220	LWT CP	335	...	5.9	2.4	16.2
379	260	Man Utd	379	+4	18.0	6.3	13.0
137	44½	Owners Abrd	137 ↑	+3	3.5	3.4	—
43	19	The Pelican Gp	43	...	...	3.1	14.5
130	50	Prism Leisure	123	...	...	3.0	14.0
61	17	Quadrant Grp	17	...	4.0	...	2.6
319	274	Radio Clyde	314	...	...	2.6	24.6
177	125	Ramsdens (H)	134	-1	...	4.5	—
502	202½	Scot TV	489	...	...	2.2	31.5
60	40	Southern Radio	54	...	0.7	2.0	22.5
206	125	Stanley Leisure	206	...	...	2.7	17.4
13	4	Stanleigh	5½	...	...	...	...
195	135	Sunset & Vine	145	...	3.5	3.3	15.4
53	27	TSW	29 #	...	...	22.7	3.7
44	3½	TVS	38	...	...	...	3.2
420	136	Tanjong	420	...	...	...	29.1
200	134	Thames TV	165	...	7.5	6.1	4.7
10½	1	Ticketing	2	+½	...	...	...
118	75	Tottenham Hot	104	...	...	...	3.4
82	58	Trans World	75	+9	...	1.4	—
321	156	Ulster TV	321	...	7.5	3.1	22.3
50	16	Wembley	18	...	1.8	...	...
18½	4½	Whitegate	18½	...	...	...	...
191½	110	Yorkshire TV	120	-1	12.0	13.3	3.6
136	80	Zeners Gp	103	...	8.0	10.4	10.4

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
4112½	1800	Am Gold	2575	-96½	...	8.6	11.6
2237½	1000	Ang Am Coal	1325	...	...	7.7	5.7
2275	1012½	Ang Am	1500	+50	...	5.1	9.3
18½	7½	Anglo Pac Res	17	-2	...	...	...
110	33	Blyvoors	62	+1	...	11.0	3.1
25	11	Bracken	23	...	...	...	1.2
566	208	Buffels	331	+3	...	13.6	7.1
4½	1½	Butte	1½	...	...	...	...
665	437	CRA	642	-18	...	2.8	—
38	9	Cluff Res	13½	-½	1.0	9.9	20.1
1662½	581½	De Beers	968½	-56½	...	14.3	2.3
125	37½	Deelkraal	47	...	...	...	...
46	7	Doornfontein	10	...	...	...	...
759	398	Driefontein	499	-6	...	7.4	8.2
375	120	Durban	172	-1	...	...	...
121	39	E Rand Gold	63	+3	...	18.3	1.8
154	62	E Dagga	72	...	...	...	5.3
168	54	E Rand Prop	146	-1	...	...	...
470	117	Elandsrand	172	-1	...	7.9	—
535	272	FS Cons	438	-2	...	12.2	4.4
33	7	FS Dev	12	...	...	...	...
1491	606	GFSA	931	-13	...	4.6	13.2
222	121	Gencor	157	-1	...	7.2	10.6
44½	29½	GM Kalgoorli	42	...	...	3.3	10.3
16½	2	Greenwich R 'A'	16	+2	...	...	...
89	44	Groonvlei	57	...	...	20.8	—
368	78	Harmony	162	-7	...	...	...
281½	87	Hartles	127	-1	...	...	4.4
14	5	Incco	9½	...	...	...	...
820	486	Impala Plat	604	-12	...	...	12.3
6	2½	Kenmare Res	7	...	...	...	...
795	292	Kinross	447	-2	...	12.6	4.4
624	293	Kloof	447	-2	...	4.4	6.8
60	21½	Leslie	40	...	...	11.7	3.6
71	12	Loraine	21	...	...	...	...
128	90½	MIM	108½	-1½	...	2.1	49.6
955	559	Minorco	868	-11	...	4.3	10.2
114½	66	Nth Brkn Hill	113	-1	...	4.4	—
1201	598	Orange Free	987½	-3½	...	14.2	7.8
689	469	RTZ	682	+11	19.5	3.8	20.0
1287½	375	Rand Mines	512½	...	...	12.6	2.1
230	75	Rand Mtn Prp	118	...	...	15.8	5.1
334	136	Randfontein	224	+8	...	8.6	3.0
221	106	Renison	146	...	...	3.1	14.2
1312½	812½	Rustnbrg	887½	-25	...	5.7	12.6
410	183	St Helena	331	-1	...	8.0	—
1287½	475	Southvaal	700	...	...	9.2	—
60	17½	Stilfontein	45	-3	...	16.4	...
183	43	Unisel	69	-1	...	3.8	7.9
4000	1500	Vaal Reefs	2475	-75	...	9.5	—
334	154	Welkom	258	-1	...	14.0	7.1
69½	26	Western Areas	41	...	...	...	...
2375	587½	Western Deep	1000	-25	...	7.1	—
233	164	Wstrn Mining	225	-5	...	...	...
630	255	Winkels	430	+7	...	2.6	3.2
84	16	Zambia Copper	83	...	...	...	...
45	18	Zandpan	22	...	...	...	6.2

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
400	228	Abbey Panels	233	...	...	...	...
125	90	Airflow Stream	123	...	0.1	0.1	18.5
123	56	Appleyard	105	+2	7.8	9.9	77.5
250	130	Blachley Mtr	249	...	8.2	7.3	14.0
145	115	Bostrom	137	...	6.0	5.8	37.3
379	100	Br Aerospace	272½	-13½	7.0	3.4	...
378	303	Caffyns	323	...	11.5	4.7	43.0
9½	3	Caverdale	7½	...	...	...	...
139	95	Central Mtr	108	...	...	4.9	27.5
48	15½	Cook (DC)	21	+1	...	...	...
213	99	Cowie (T)	211	+14	6.2	4.0	—
135	75	Dag Motors	96	...	5.7	8.0	11.3
140	85	Davnprt Vern	140 ↑	+1	4.0	3.8	—
264	130	ERF	214	...	4.0	...	...
137	68	European Mtr	93	-9	...	2.2	...
316	167	Evans Halshaw	262	+3	11.2	5.7	24.4
283	163	FR Group	260	+5	6.6	3.4	12.4
3581½	1500	Ford Motor	3275	+62½	...	...	...
2875	1681½	General Mtr	2593½	-31½	...	1.9	...
53	35	Gowrings	45	...	2.0	5.9	...
102	43	Henlys	102	+7	3.0	3.9	...
786	465	Honda Motor	766	-10	...	0.7	...
31	10	Jacks (Wm)	21	...	...	...	...
95	49	Jessups	78	+1	4.5	7.7	...
225	68	Kwik-Fit	104	...	3.3	4.3	10.3
336	175	Lex Service	307	-1½	10.0	4.3	...
128	74	Lookers	109	...	6.2	7.9	...
153	77	Lucas	143	+2	7.0	6.5	...
263	104	Pendragon	263	...	6.0	3.0	23.5
175	103	Perry Gp	146	+10	9.0	8.2	24.1
143	56	Quicks Group	143	+5	3.0	2.8	26.4
176	89	Rolls-Royce	132	-1	7.2	7.3	25.0
160	99	Vardy (Reg)	136	...	4.0	4.0	20.8
165	93	Westland	168	+4	4.2	3.4	14.6

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
144	73	Adscene	141 ↑	...	4.0	3.9	15.0
390	315	Black (A&C)	325	...	13.0	5.3	19.4
598	398	Blenheim Gp	593	...	9.0	2.0	22.2
330	248	Bristol	284	...	11.5	5.4	21.1
8300	5900	Daily Mail	7925	...	13.0	2.2	17.8
8300	5800	Daily Mail 'A'	7925	...	13.0	2.2	17.8
301	193	Dorling Kind	298	+3	...	1.3	28.5
365	224½	EMAP	338	+1	...	3.0	22.0
983	533	Euromoney Pb	948	-15	29.5	4.1	21.3
277	125	Harrington K	236	-1	4.5	2.6	—
358	155	Haynes Pub	318	...	6.0	2.5	13.5
240	140	Headline	240	...	10.0	1.7	26.7
183	105	Home Counts	140	-2	8.2	7.9	36.4
6½	2	Intl Bus Comm	4½	...	...	...	...
14½	6½	Intl Cm & Data	7½	...	...	...	...
430	285	Independent	420	...	...	4.6	15.1
491	289	Johnstne Press	491	+2	5.5	1.5	23.2
279	186	Metal Bulletn	279	+4	9.0	3.9	—
125	49	Mirror Gp	106	...	...	...	10.1
368	127½	News Corp	355 ↑	-11	...	0.5	23.9
764	258	News Intl	750	-1	3.9	0.7	12.0
459½	297	Pearson	399	+7	...	4.0	18.2
640	340	Portsmth Sund	640	...	6.6	1.8	16.5
682	447	Reed Int	673	+12	16.0	3.2	22.3
138	61	Southnews	138	+8	...	1.4	40.7
129	29	Sterling Pub	129	...	...	2.6	42.4
368	274	Telegraph	349	...	11.0	4.3	—
815	565	Thomson Corp	765	...	25.2	4.4	13.0
347	222	Trinity Intl	318	...	...	3.5	18.7
62	39	Unit Group	34	...	...	...	...
543	323	Utd Newspaprs	532	+4	21.0	5.3	18.2

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
18½	6	Aberdeen Pet	16½	...	...	...	—
29½	11½	Aran Energy	25½	+1	...	...	...
68	23	Arcon Intl	43	...	...	...	...
53	27	Aus Oil & Gas	49½	...	...	...	...
290	20	Aviva Pet	52	...	...	...	...
48	8	Beverley	10	...	0.6	...	...
195	105	Br Borneo	174	+2	7.1	5.4	19.2
305	223	British Gas	304	+3½	...	6.4	13.2
304	182	Br Petroleum	289	+6½	...	4.8	36.3
4½	1	Bula Resources	1½	...	...	...	...
741	460	Burmah Castrl	720	+1	24.0	4.4	16.5
75	21	Cairn Energy	49	...	...	...	...
253	184	Calor Gp	236	...	12.0	6.8	15.5
80	30	Clyde Pet	53	+½	1.2	...	...
16½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	12	...	...	...	...
477	297	Enterprise	476	+7	15.7	4.4	33.9
103	25	Exp Co Louis	79	...	...	...	...
28½	14½	Fairhaven Intl	24½	-½	...	1.1	0.0
69	34	Goal Pet	63	...	1.2	2.6	11.9
31	5	Gt Western Res	25	...	...	...	...
149	77	Hardy O & G	144	...	1.0	0.9	45.2
28	7½	Kelt Energy	27½	...	...	...	...
263	112	LASMO	185	+3	8.5	6.1	23.0
163	63	-do- Units	91	...	15.0	22.0	...
51	11	Mid Scot Res	19½	...	...	...	...
42½	27	Monument	40½	-2	...	...	41.9
18½	5	New London	9	...	...	...	...
55½	17	Nth Sea Assets	25	...	0.7	4.0	0.0
37	25	Oil Search	31	+1	...	...	...
14	8	Petrie	14	...	...	...	...
106	57	Pict Pet	106	...	...	...	14.7
31	10	Premier	29½	...	...	...	12.6
198	40	Presidio	75	...	...	...	...
420	308	Ranger	348	...	...	8.4	...
3050	4162½	Royal Dtch Pt	5025	-84½	...	5.0	...
4312½	3025	Schlumberger	4237½	+87½	...	1.9	...
6C	41	Seafield	60	+1	...	...	...
605	435	Shell	575 ↑	+5	21.9	5.1	—
316	110	Sunrise Eng Sv	202	...	...	...	...
16	7½	Teredne	7½	-1	...	...	...
62	25	Triton Europe	35	-2	...	...	7.4
10	6½	Vikers Grp	7½	...	...	...	...
172	131	Woodside	159	-7	...	2.2	...

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PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
252	105	API	242	+1	7.5	3.5	24.6
270	123	Ano Wiggins	176	+5	6.2	...	14.7
455	355	Abbott Mead	445	+1	6.4	2.8	22.6
3	½	Acis Group	1	...	...	...	...
126	13	Argus Gp	13½	...	5.6	...	4.5
212	105	Arpen Comm	200	...	...	3.5	22.4
13	7	BBB Design	9½	...	...	...	...
341	190	Bemrose	336	+3	11.7	4.7	17.1
60	16	Birndale	19	...	0.2	1.4	16.1
138	90	Bunzl	129	...	4.0	4.1	36.1
267	147	CIA Gp	266	...	...	1.9	17.6
51	36	City of Lone	46	...	...	6.8	9.6
214	135	Cropper (James)	213	+4	3.0	1.9	24.2
41	6	Cream Comm	6 #	...	...	...	...
73	30	De'yn Pckaging	65	...	1.4	3.0	12.9
149	76	Delphic Pack	110	-1	4.5	5.5	14.6
74½	42	Dudley Jenkins	42	...	...	...	10.6
15	9½	Elewick	12½	...	0.2	...	19.5
66	36	Fairway Groups	55 ↑	...	...	2.6	—
286	211	Ferguson Intl	271	-1	12.5	6.3	15.6
140	65	Ferry Pick	100	...	5.5	7.3	10.0
106	25	Filofax	100	...	...	0.5	25.0
46	6	Fitch	16	...	...	...	1.6
71	47	Gibbon Lyons	69	...	...	9.7	13.6
309	194	Gold Greenless	263	...	4.3	4.0	22.3
50	36	Goodhead	36	...	0.5	2.6	...
160	22½	Humerprint	61	...	...	...	...
160	124	Intereurope	138	...	7.4	7.4	9.8
266	123	Jarvis Porter	236	...	4.4	2.6	22.5
50	13	Lopex	35	...	...	...	14.2
263	133	More O'Ferrall	216	+6	13.2	...	13.5
78	27	NMC Group	73	...	1.2	...	14.4
86	56	Osborne & Little	92	...	4.3	7.2	10.3
189	132	Quarto	179	...	5.2	5.1	9.4
343	251	St Ives Gp	335	-1	5.2	2.1	22.8
215	115	Saatchi	140	...	...	...	...
754	361	Sappi	419	-13	...	6.2	7.9
19	1½	Scrita	17	...	...	...	...
43	3	Shanewick	20	...	...	...	...
351	255	Smith David	323	...	9.5	3.9	14.3
335	210	Smurfit (Jeff)	295	...	...	0.5	10.2
263	171	Stat-Plus	216	+4	6.0	5.0	—
21½	10½	Taylor Nelson	19½	+½	...	1.0	41
65	37	VTR	53	+2	...	6.4	15.1
115	31	WPP	62	...	...	...	...
195	46	Wace	71	...	8.2	15.5	7.9
221	158	Waddington (J)	205	...	7.4	5.1	15.5
600	391	Waimough	599	+5	10.5	2.3	26.1
6½	1½	Westport	5½	...	...	...	20.6
39	12	Whitney Mcke	16	...	...	...	...
75	51	Wood (SW)	63	...	0.2	0.5	...

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
3½	1½	Abaca Groups	1½ #	...	...	...	...
86	28	Allied Lon	57	+2	3.5	8.3	49.2
70	55	Arcadian	61	...	...	...	...
73	34	Asda	59	...	2.0	4.5	21.0
141	64	Avonside	97	...	...	8.0	7.5
2575	1687½	BCE	2537½	+12½	...	...	...
486	268	Bilton	485	-1	18.0	4.9	17.5
45	23	Bourne End	25	...	1.0	5.3	...
168	108	Bradford	163	+2	4.4	3.6	14.8
36	11	Bredero	19	...	...	...	1.5
275	110	Br Land	239	+1	6.3	3.5	22.1
189	108	Brixton	189	...	8.1	5.7	14.4
55	44	Burford	51	...	0.9	2.5	26.6
125	88	Cap & Regnl	125	+3	...	1.1	...
200	75	Cardiff Prop	120	...	2.4	2.7	...
433	103	Chesterfield	225	...	18.5	...	15.9
80	9	City Site Ests	27	...	1.3	...	...
40	8	Clarke Nickolls	16	...	0.3	...	3.9
32	8	Clayform	12½	...	...	...	...
933	785	Daejan	933	+25	25.0	3.6	14.6
4½	½	Dares Estates	1½	...	...	...	...
76	30	Debenhm Twsn	75	+1	2.5	4.4	25.2
12	1	De Morgan	8	...	...	...	...
135	76	Dencora	89	...	5.5	8.2	...
540	263	Derwent Hldgs	326	...	6.6	3.5	38.6
250	170	Estates Agency	230	...	3.0	1.9	19.3
98	6	Estates Gen	14	...	3.7	...	4.5
143	100	Evans Of Leeds	134	+1	4.1	4.1	12.8
31	11	Five Oaks	15	...	...	...	...
55	29	Fletcher Kmg	43	+4	1.0	3.1	31.1
348	196	Frogmore	345	...	15.0	5.8	18.0
125	51	Grainger	108	...	5.2	6.5	24.1
182	84	Gt Portland	149	+4	10.0	8.9	14.8
114	6½	Greycoat	10½	...	5.2	...	...
129	63	HK Land	128	...	...	4.0	21.5
48	19	Hambro Cntys	46	+4	0.0	0.1	...
588	180	Hammerson	354	+20	10.0	3.8	10.5
503	165	-do- 'A'	330	+12	10.0	4.0	15.6
150	69	Helical Bar	141	...	4.0	3.8	...
30	20	Hemingway	21	...	...	...	...
175	83	Herring Baker	96	...	7.0	10.9	...
225	133	Jermyn	133	...	1.5	1.5	...
504	343	Land Sec	488	+4	21.7	5.9	14.3
93	62	Lon Merch Sec	82	+1	3.6	6.2	15.0
3½	1½	Lon & Metro	2½	...	...	...	...
411	19½	MEPC	375	+4	20.0	7.1	15.7
6½	3	McInerney A	6½	...	...	...	...
145	76	McKay Secs	104	...	6.7	...	17.1
20	3	Marsheath	4½	...	0.5	...	...
133	5	Merivale Mre	25	...	1.0	5.3	...
5	5	Merlin Intl	5 #	...	...	...	...
46	27	Moorfield Est	33	...	0.4	...	...
1075	560	Mountview	825	...	18.0	2.9	8.4
9	2½	Mowala	2½ #	...	...	...	...
139	101	Mucklow (A&J)	135	...	5.9	5.9	17.6
55	33	New Cavendish	50	...	...	...	26.8
117	30	Olive Hldgs	31	...	9.0	...	4.7
30	3½	Ossory Est	10	...	0.1	2.0	2.6
103	8	Power Corp	9	...	...	...	0.9
111	54	Prop Security	110	+2	3.7	4.5	21.9
122½	14½	Property Trust	36	...	...	...	...
4½	½	Raglan	2	...	...	...	...
68	1½	Regalian	15	...	1.5	13.3	3.0
10½	3½	Rosehaugh	7 #	...	...	...	...
175	125	Rowlinson Secs	125	...	1.3	1.4	26.6
35	12	St Modwen Prp	23 ↑	...	0.6	3.5	—
47	21	Savills	46	+2	...	...	...
72	19	Scot Met	51	...	1.3	3.9	...
68	39	Shaftesbury	68	...	...	...	...
12½	2	Shield	10	...	...	...	...
36	11	Sinclair Gldsm	35 #	...	0.5	1.9	...
246	63	Slough Estates	188	-2	5.1	5.8	10.7
78	36	Southend Prop	56	...	4.1	9.6	29.3
20½	2½	Speyhawk	12	...	...	...	...
39	8	Stanhope Prps	19½	...	...	...	...
90	58	Town Centre	89	...	3.1	4.6	17.4
62	35	Trafford Park	61	+1	2.5	5.6	16.5
35	7	UK Land	17	...	...	...	...
7	4	Union Square	4	...	...	...	...
217	118	Warner	156 ↑	-1	10.5	7.5	17.0
245	108	Warnford	165 ↑	...	7.2	5.5	11.7
8	1	Waterglade	7	...	...	...	...
91	23	Wates	44	...	3.7	11.3	11.1
44	17	Wood John D	40	...	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
28	9	Automagic	13	...	...	...	...
101	42	Headlam	98	...	2.4	3.3	38.8
500	265	Lambert	500	+7	12.5	3.3	13.0
111	63	Pittard Garnar	93	+1	1.5	2.2	12.2
41	18	Strong & Fisher	22	...	1.0	6.1	6.1
193	58	Stylo	126	...	2.5	2.6	...

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
478	362	Allied Text	478	+1	12.6	3.5	—
73	47	Beckman (A)	61	...	4.7	10.4	12.1
52	21	Bolton Gp	23	...	...	...	11.7
164	136	Br Mohair	161	...	6.5	7.0	12.7
119	30	Celestion	116	...	1.2	1.4	...
41	15	Chartwell	30	...	0.4	2.7	...
337	180	Claremont Ga	330	+5	...	1.5	22.7
593	364	Courtauld Text	593	+3	13.6	3.1	—
238	160	Dawson	232	+1	9.0	5.4	21.7
59	17	Drummond	25	...	1.5	...	7.7
60	17	Dunkeld	34	...	...	...	—
73	60	Faupel	72	...	...	9.1	7.1
68	24	Foster (John)	32	...	0.5	2.1	...
142	84	Gaskell	85	...	9.5	...	...
186	99	Hicking Pntcst	171	...	3.4	2.7	14.5
73	38	Jerome (S)	45	...	1.0	...	...
389	215	Lamont	302	+6	...	5.3	14.8
410½	205½	Leeds	401	...	...	2.4	19.3
41	15	Lister	41	...	0.1	0.3	...
122	81	Lyles (S)	111	+2	4.9	5.9	12.6
94	53	Parkland 'A'	82	+1	2.0	3.1	...
95½	63	Readicut	91	...	3.4	4.9	16.7
71	30	SEET	45	...	...	...	...
94	67	Sirdar	91	...	5.1	7.5	15.8
54	29	Stirling Gp	53	...	1.6	4.2	22.0
59	31	Stoddard	49	...	2.6	7.3	12.6
312	196	Tomkinsons	309	...	11.5	5.0	26.7
6½	3	West Trust	5½	...	...	5.6	...
350	160	Yorklyde	340	+1	9.7	3.6	15.9

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1010	608	BAT	948	+5	33.6	4.7	25.0
660	480	Rothmans 'B'	637	+17	10.2	2.1	14.6

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
440	211	Assoc Br Ports	390	+2	6.0	2.6	...
816	551	BAA	777	+4	14.5	2.5	13.7
315	219	Br Airways	291	-2	10.1	4.7	7.8
182	45	Clarkson (H)	78	...	6.0	...	3.5
101	11	Davies Newman	23 #	...	...	...	...
515	293	Eurotunnel Uts	485	-22	...	...	...
88	44	Fisher (James)	51	...	5.5	...	14.3
140	70	Graig	133	...	4.5	4.4	...
203	147	IoM Steam	158	...	...	6.3	7.6
39	22	Jacobs (JI)	30	...	1.9	8.4	17.9
53	41	Lon O'Seas Frs	41	...	1.2	4.1	2.5
1650	1237½	Manchstr Sh	1650	...	4.5	0.4	9.0
375	190	Mersey Docks	339	+4	7.5	3.0	—
210	168	Nail Express	198	...	...	4.4	13.0
290	216	NFC	270	+2	6.5	3.3	20.4
357	170	Ocean Group	267	+4	14.3	6.7	15.0
63	31	Ocean Wilson	51	...	...	7.0	11.4
564	296½	P & O Dfd	575	+7	30.5	7.1	20.3
156	97	P & O 5 1/2%	133	...	...	5.5	...
536	267	Powell Duffryn	524	+2	22.6	5.8	20.9
138	96	Seacon	123	...	...	5.5	7.7
50	29½	TIP Europe	47½	...	1.4	6.8	6.7
87	24	TNT	35½	-1	...	...	...
745	495	Tibbet & Britn	728	...	...	2.0	29.1
478	214	Tiphook	349	+5	17.3	6.6	6.9
307	206	TDG	295	...	9.5	4.3	17.7

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
524	308½	Anglian Water	510	+4	19.3	5.0	9.4
601	336	Northumbrian	601	+6	20.5	4.5	6.2
513	323	North West	505	+8	19.5	5.2	8.9
500	298	Severn Trent	497	+4	19.3	5.2	7.3
516	301	Sthrn Water	508	+5	19.5	5.1	9.0
1300	670	Sth Staffs	1285	...	40.2	4.2	6.3
529	306	South West	527	+1	21.7	5.5	8.0
528	324	Thames Water	524	...	19.2	4.9	9.9
574	337	Welsh Water	572	+4	21.4	5.0	6.6
615	359½	Wessex Water	615	+9	...	4.2	6.3
569	336	Yorkshire W	561	+3	19.5	4.6	9.1

Source: Finstat

♦ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; ♦ Ex capital distribution; — Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data.

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ACCOUNTANCY

Virtues in the British approach to insolvency

Path to administration could be made faster and cheaper

BY ROGER GREGORY

EVERYONE involved in insolvency is aware of the clamour for legal reform. It is becoming so loud that one could hardly miss it. That the Insolvency Act is a prescription for bayoneting the wounded is one of the more memorable one-liners that have been invented to summarise the current of opinion.

The argument is that a "rescue culture" in Britain is not possible because the legislative frameworks necessary to develop such a culture are simply absent. The Insolvency Act, therefore, is to blame and must be changed.

The detractors of the act fix their attention primarily upon company voluntary arrangements and administration orders. They see the key to "the rescue culture" as the corporate voluntary arrangement, which offers real flexibility and potential cheapness.

Rescuers of companies need some legal mechanism that keeps creditors at bay while the proposals are drawn up and considered. In individual voluntary arrangements, debtors can readily obtain an interim order that stops creditors proceeding against the debtor until the proposals are decided upon by the creditors.

The interim order procedure is not available in corporate voluntary arrangements. On the corporate side, a moratorium is obtainable only through an administration order.

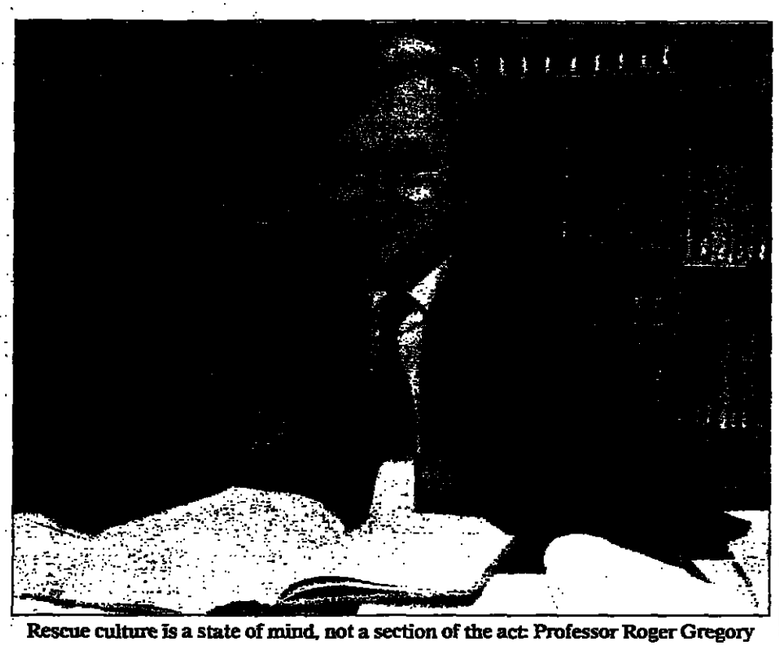
The detractors argue that the administration order procedure is too expensive. The fixed spending needed to set up an administration order is so big that it can only be absorbed, or is only worthwhile for creditors, for the biggest groups of companies where debts are so large that the extra cost is lost in the wash. As a result, hundreds of smaller companies, which could benefit from the option of going into administration, are, therefore, denied it.

The reason for this excessive initial cost of setting up at administration is that there is almost an orthodoxy of practice (at least in London) which goes unquestioned. It should be questioned if more ailing companies are to be saved.

The elements of this orthodox approach to winning an administration order are:

- ☐ Thick piles of affidavits from the directors are required in support of the application for the order;
- ☐ The pressures of litigation have forced the independent practitioner's report to be lengthy and detailed;
- ☐ When the order is made, full control is assumed by the administrator and staff;
- ☐ Top management personnel are left in place;
- ☐ Too much time is spent working up and negotiating proposals with a view to putting them to a creditors' meeting.

This approach is expensive. The detractors, therefore, claim that the Insolvency Act causes this prohibitive expense and makes the "rescue culture" impossible.



Rescue culture is a state of mind, not a section of the act: Professor Roger Gregory

I accept that this orthodoxy of practice has arisen in administration and is in accordance with the Insolvency Act. I also accept that the interim order provisions do not apply to corporate voluntary arrangements.

What, however, I do not accept it that current orthodoxy is the only way of handling these matters under existing legislation. The Insolvency Act and Rules are drafted in very much more flexible form than the law's detractors claim. People have confined themselves slavishly to orthodoxy and have failed to consider all the practical possibilities and options afforded by the Insolvency Act and the Companies Act. There could be simpler ways.

Rescue culture is primarily a state of mind not a section in the Insolvency Act. If there is the will to produce a rescue for an ailing business, present legislation provides plenty of scope for achieving it at reasonable cost and with reasonable despatch.

Ever more frequently, banks and suppliers are looking to solve business difficulties rather than give up. The much criticised legislation facilitates, rather than stifles, the solution.

● *The author is principal legal adviser to Touche Ross corporate special services and professor of company and insolvency law at the University of Wolverhampton.*

Analysts in line for Tweedie bonanza

WITH the publication this week of the investment analysts' official thinking on how they are to extract a swift definition of earnings from the new form of trading performance figures that companies will all have to produce soon, the whole attitude of analysts is under scrutiny.

David Damant, who chairs the Institute of Investment Management and Research subcommittee which has produced the thinking, is surely right when he argues that "to attempt to define a single earnings figure for all purposes is bound to fail" and asserts that "one number cannot do everything". But analysts are under extreme time pressure and without much long-term accounting back-up when they have to provide a trading floor with an instant judgment.

The accounting standards board (ASB) has rightly produced new rules under what is known as FRS3, which ensures that a company produces much clearer figures. These then need to be analysed by users, depending on what they themselves need to know, which clearly leaves room for debate.

In the accounting profession, this has been going on since time immemorial. And there was an entertaining and terribly well-mannered dispute recently when the joint authors of the English ICA's excellent *Financial Reporting 1992-93* survey started arguing with each other at the launch of the book.



ROBERT BRUCE

At the heart of the argument is the ASB's belief, extolled by David Tweedie, its chairman, that the perception that accounts could be broken down into one magic earnings-per-share figure should itself be broken. Only then, it argues, will people really start analysing figures with some rigour and beneficial results.

This was the line taken by David Tonkin, one of the co-authors, who normally spends his time producing the *Company Reporting* newsletter in Edinburgh. He argued that it was the market that ought to be calculating some sort of earnings-per-share figure, on the basis that it comprised the users and consumers of that information.

Len Skerratt, professor of accounting and management at Manchester, took the opposite view. He argued that "the absence of a bottom line brings the profession into disrepute" and that "it is the function of the profession to produce these judgments".

The analysts could be forgiven for taking the view that if the accountants cannot agree about this, why should they be any better? The problem is that they are at the sharp end on this. They are the ones who need to produce the instant judgment.

Terry Smith is probably the most famous of accounting analysts after the controversy that followed the publication of his book *Accounting For Growth* last year.

Last week, on one of his rare public appearances, he was arguing that the analysts still had not got themselves organised. Certainly, the most recent research note from Hoare Govett on the subject would bear his views out. There are two routes the analysts can follow. One of these is to try to produce their own methodology to deal with a changing world. That is the route that David Damant is pioneering.

The second route is routinely to rubbish those who are trying to achieve change. That is the route Hoare Govett took in its note "*Tweedie: Descent into Chaos?*".

Its overview shows exactly where it is coming from. "After Tweedie, or with the introduction of FRS3, we have an earnings Babel, with the accounting authorities, companies, broking firms and institutions all advancing varying interpretations of earnings".

Or to put it another way, we have a period when analysts have a chance of a lifetime to show just how invaluable they are by producing analyses that will guide all these different users of accounts, all of whom have different motivations and needs, through the figures to what they need to know.

Unfortunately, Hoare Govett did not take that view. Instead they have a go at Tweedie the wrecker. "Professor David Tweedie, the accounting industry's answer to Sir John Harvey-Jones, has emerged as a hero of the hour," they say. "Deliberately courting unpopularity — 'you make a lot of enemies in this job, but then that's really the whole idea' — Tweedie has attacked evasive finance directors, challenged their auditing henchmen and, last but not least, lambasted lazy analysts, who 'should go off and drive buses', since we'd all be much safer."

Hoare Govett have, of course, completely missed the point. And they prove this by then taking a detailed look at the various results you could come up with by a whole variety of ways of calculating the Hanson group's earnings per share for 1992. "To summarise," they say, "just in case one or two readers are confused, Hanson's earnings per share in 1992, using a variety of reasonable bases, were down 11, 6, or 2 per cent, or up 1, 2, 3, 8, or 10 per cent."

Without realising quite what they have just proved, they then have another go at Tweedie. "Clear? Tweedie fans, (stand up all you journalists), will argue that this is all needlessly pedantic. Not so. In fact, the argument and the shrill note of panic it contains reminds you of small, tired schoolchildren realising that at the end of a long day they can't come to terms with their arithmetic homework."

The truth is that FRS3, the David Tweedie revolution, or whatever you want to call it, has produced a bonanza for analysts. If they have the right accounting knowledge, nous and skills, they are now in a position to tailor the figures for all their different users. It does, however, depend on them rising to the challenge, rather than simply standing there saying, "shan't, won't".

● *The author is an associate editor of* Accountancy Age

Receivers beat their continental rivals

BY TIM OLSEN

WHILE the workforce at Leyland DAF battles for its jobs, what are the thought processes of the people put in to salvage the business?

The administrative receiver probably offers the most speedy and valuable means of saving an insolvent business, despite the criticism that the Insolvency Act 1986 does not sufficiently help rescues and the strictures handed out to many professionals involved in major insolvencies on their fees. If time is short, the business has intrinsic value and there are buyers out there, receivership can provide the means of survival.

This form of insolvency procedure, confusingly called administrative receivership, to distinguish it from administration, the nearest English equivalent to America's Chapter 11 debt moratorium, both imposes an instant legal freeze and gives complete powers of management to the receivers. Under the authority of their appointment, usually by banks holding fixed and floating charges, their power is virtually absolute.

Draconian though this may seem, it is in everyone's interest that creditors cannot disrupt the business and try to enforce their rights against the assets. Moreover, receivers can choose to involve appropriate management in helping run the business.

If they are to sell the business, they need to be able to pass the assets on without the liabilities. No legitimate entrepreneur is going to take on a business with huge liabilities, though certain creditors of the company in receivership, such as suppliers on reservation of title or leasing companies, may be able to argue that they have to be paid if the assets they supplied are to go to a buyer.

Receivers need cool heads, commercial judgment and the ability to determine a strategy. They are often put in after a 48-hour investigation, though even that luxury may not be afforded to them. This is where the skill of insolvency professionals and their teams count in getting to grips with issues that the company's directors have been grappling with for months. If there is a good product, a market and funding, then a shutdown may be avoided and the business allowed to keep trading in the hope of a sale.

Many continental systems struggle with court-appointed officials and judicial supervision, with its attendant delays. The administrative receiver can move with speed. Often, businesses have been sold days, if not hours, after the appointment. Whilst he may be accountable to a subsequent liquidator, if he could have done his job better, he can put the business back on the road to success. With luck, he may not only pay off the bank that put him in, and the preferred creditors, but have something to pass to a liquidator for the unsecured creditors. Even if this last hope is illusory, a business will have been saved, passed to a new owner, hopefully intent on expanding it, and jobs preserved. Certainly, there will be grief in any form of insolvency and it is thus a damage limitation exercise.

All this contrasts with cumbersome continental moratoriums under controllers appointed by the court to administer the debtors' affairs; often the debtor may be entitled to a say in what happens to the business. Hardly a recipe for speed. Whatever may happen with Leyland DAF, receivership is often the best route for securing that the viable bits in the business jigsaw can be extracted and restored to health.

No doubt, when the dust has settled, someone will carp about the costs and fees. But do we really expect that the skills of those that save a business should not be rewarded just as those of the person that created it? The ability to assimilate and solve the problems of a large group of companies needs skill and resources. The strategy adopted can go wrong and insolvency practitioners are not immune from suit. It may seem fair game to attack fees but the job has to be done.

In a previous recession, *The Times* carried a Marc cartoon depicting yet another corporate crash in which a small girl asked "Wouldn't it be simpler Daddy if the receiver ran the whole country?" While this recession will still be with us for some time, we have not yet come to that. If we did, someone, no doubt, would still grumble about the costs.

● *The author, a licensed insolvency practitioner, is a partner in Lovell White Durrant, the City solicitors.*



Cadbury's great expectations leave audit committees a lot to live up to

BY MARTIN SCICLUNA

THE Cadbury report on the financial aspects of corporate governance has given the strongest possible boost to audit committees, short of them getting statutory backing. The Cadbury committee clearly expects that they will do a lot to improve financial reporting and corporate governance, which gives them a lot to live up to.

The report listed a wide range of benefits it expects from introducing an effective audit committee, but can all or most of them be substantiated? If not, there is a danger that audit committees will be sold on a false prospectus.

Cadbury says audit committees have the potential to "improve the quality of financial reporting, by reviewing the financial statements on behalf of the board", slightly implying that the board could not review them adequately itself, a view some would dispute. An audit committee can demonstrably improve the quality of financial reporting when that is poor or challenged by an imbalance on the board, perhaps because the finance director cannot impose or get board support for a proper standard of reporting.

An audit committee, Cadbury says, can also "create a climate of discipline and control which will reduce the opportunity for fraud". Clearly, an audit committee is one of many ways to create this climate. A continuous process of quasi-independent review of internal controls and procedures will tend to deter those aware of it and may help detect undeterred fraudsters.

The claim that audit committees "enable the non-executive directors to contribute an independent judgment and play a positive role" is sound. A recent Pro Ned survey concluded: "There is general agreement that non-executive directors are not as effective as they might be." Non-executives are less effective when their formal role is not clear. An audit committee set up on Cadbury lines will give the role a clarity that is often missing.

> The auditor and management need to ensure that their relationship is at arm's length.

The proposition that committees can "help the finance director, by providing a forum in which he can raise issues of concern, and which he can use to get things done which might otherwise be difficult", is more contentious. Many finance directors would say they would find ways of airing issues that concern them with other members of the board, with or without an audit committee. An audit committee is only needed if the finance director is under pressure from other interests on the board. The existence of an audit committee could then render such pressure less effective, making it less likely to be exercised in the first place.

Cadbury is on much better ground contending that audit committees can "strengthen the position of the external auditor, by providing a channel of communication and forum for issues of concern". The independent auditor is intentionally an outsider, who has access to the information needed to complete the audit but never becomes part of the company with easy access to its staff, decisions or problems. Auditor and management need to ensure that their relationship is at arm's length. But this allows the finance director to erect barriers between the auditor and the rest of the board. An audit committee can check this tendency. Most auditors welcome an audit committee to improve communications, provided it does not become a barrier to the auditor having access to the board as a whole.

The claim that audit committees can "provide a framework within which the external auditor can assert his independence in the event of a dispute with management" overstates the case, because an auditor does not need an audit committee to act independently. Rather, where there is a serious dispute, an audit committee provides a forum in which to resolve it. The auditor does not need to assert independence but to find the best way to tell the board what the problem is and to resolve it, with the board, in a way that meets the auditor's independent responsibilities. In this situation, the focused attention of those directors best versed in accounting matters is one of the principal benefits an audit committee can offer.



"Auditor is intentionally an outsider": Martin Scicluna

To say that audit committees can "strengthen the position of the internal audit function, by providing a greater degree of independence from management" is true, if optimistic. The function of internal audit will always include anomalies. The greater the role of internal auditors, the more they risk encroaching on senior management's territory. Absolute independence is not a state to which internal auditors can aspire. Answering to, and having access to, the directors who depend least on the goodwill of senior management can help. An audit committee of non-executive directors probably comes closest to the ideal of independence. Linking the internal audit function formally with the audit committee should strengthen the former's position, and help the latter gather information.

The statement that audit committees can "increase public confidence in the credibility and objectivity of financial statements" does not apply easily to individual firms. It is just conceivable that setting up an audit committee might increase confidence in the odd company's financial statements, but there is no objective evidence. The broader hope is that introducing audit committees in all listed companies will help resuscitate the battered credibility and perceived objectivity of financial statements generally. Their impact on this central issue should be helpful, but this problem will be solved only by a combination of measures.

● *The author is head of the London audit division of Touche Ross and chairman of the auditing committee of the ICAEW.*

Learning to love the banks

ARE Britain's small businesses as badly served by the high street banks as we are led to believe? In a survey of 1,000 small to medium-sized companies by the UK 200 Group of chartered accountants, only 10 per cent of respondents considered standards of bank service to be poor. Just over half thought service was average and 33 per cent thought it was good. Sixty per cent were confident that their bank would advance new funds if approached. On a bleaker note, two thirds of the companies quizzed did not expect business to pick up until 1994.

Monkey business

CHRIS Barlow, of Coopers & Lybrand, must feel like a cross between Noah and the Pied Piper. Four months after Windsor Safari Park closed its gates, he has found a new home for 13 wolves, 12 llamas, six giraffes, six rhinos, four ankole cattle and a cheetah. They are taking up residence at Longleat Safari Park, in Wiltshire. In a separate deal, six chimpanzees are going to Monkeyworld, in Dorset, and a family of dolphins to Holland. Barlow, with an accountant's eye for detail, says 369 creatures have been relocated and 43 are the subject of draft agreement. The remaining 128 include 56 baboons, 15 zebras ... and 20 snails. Any takers?

AN IMMINENT London get-together between a group of young solicitors and a group of young chartered accountants promises to be a festive affair. The speakers include a Mr Bacchus and a Mr Hatter.

Maxwell mania

THE morning after allegations emerged that Robert Maxwell faked foreign exchange profits, an unknown caller from south London telephoned Price Waterhouse, administrator of Maxwell Communication Corporation. The conversation went something like this: "Is Mr Maxwell there?" "No, not today." "I mean, it seems that he was not only a crook and a liar but he forged his own money ... and that's illegal, even for a Rumanian. And what I want to know is, what's going to happen to Ian and Keith now?" "You mean Ian and Kevin." "Keith, Kevin ... it makes no difference." "I think you'd better call the Serious Fraud Office." "What a good idea. I'll call them now. I've got a few minutes ..." Worryingly, he said he was a *Times* reader.

JON ASHWORTH

For the contemporary Mary Poppins, being a nanny can offer a career that is both demanding and fulfilling, writes **Ros Drinkwater**

The thoroughly modern nanny

She commands a hefty salary, wears a uniform by Valentino, holds a pilot's licence and is trained in fire arms: she is the modern nanny.

Domestic service is no longer the Cinderella of professions. Hutchinson's, based in Knightsbridge, London, provides domestic staff for households around the world, including the nanny with the pilot's licence. "While few households can afford to run a full complement of staff, there is always a demand for top calibre domestics." Frances Hutchinson, the proprietor, says. Despite recession, she describes the market for butlers as "buoyant", with salaries of £40,000 for the top position of house manager or major-domo, whose duties may include running several homes on different continents.

In line with butlers, top chefs can command £30,000-plus, while down the scale, a skilled laundress might expect £18,000 as a lady's maid.

The people perhaps worst hit by recession are chauffeurs, who have tended to be the first to be made redundant in cash-strapped households. Many turn to corporate work as an alternative.

There is still a limited demand for liveried footmen, but the trend is towards a blurring of the lines between positions: clients will ask for a cook/housekeeper or a butler/chef. Another break with tradition is the number of staff joining private households from hotel or catering backgrounds.

> Starched skirts have given way to T-shirts and leggings

The newest arrival among the range of below-stairs staff is the low-profile security-cum-bodyguard. They, too, can expect to top the £30,000 mark.

While few of us will ever lose sleep deciding which bodyguard to choose, an increasing number of women are opting to combine a career with motherhood. This is good news for the modern nanny. "Starched skirts may have given way to T-shirts and leggings, but nanny still likes to rule the roost," Gilly MacWilliam, of Nannies Kensington, says.

Nanny will expect her own room and bath, use of car, good family holidays, and weekends plus two evenings free each week. She is not an au pair, so while she may have no objection to loading the family wash, she will probably draw the line at hand-laundering her employer's lingerie.

Salary will depend on training, experience and location. A position in Britain will pay from £5,200 to £15,600, top money going to graduates of Norland, the *crème de la crème* of training colleges. Overseas, salaries, particularly in America and the Middle East, can rise to £20,000 plus.

TIM BISHOP



Book at bedtime: Nicole Wieynk, a nanny, with four young charges at Pippa Pop-ins, the children's hotel in London

From the client's point of view, the ideal nanny is trained, preferably with a diploma from the National Nursery Examination Board (NNEB). She is aged between 23 and 30, with a bubbly personality. She drives, is organised and creative, and a non-smoker. Nannies who stay out all night, who are untidy, who spank, or who are always on the telephone, tend to be less welcome.

There is a small demand for male nannies, known in America as "mannies". Typical instances include a single mother who feels her child will benefit from male influence, a handicapped child whose care involves a lot of lifting, or a clutch of sporty boys.

"For 80 per cent of our clients, this is their first experience of a nanny, so it's important to establish the parameters at the beginning," Mrs MacWilliam says. "Nanny is responsible for the children. She prepares their food, launders their clothes, cleans the nursery and organises parties and outings. The wise parent considers potential problems — can she learn to love the dobermann? Will she prefer to eat alone? Are your views on television versus active play compatible?"

For those requiring a nanny only occasionally, Pippa Pop-ins is the world's first registered hotel for children, where two to 12-year-olds stay overnight without their parents. Midnight feasts, magic bubble baths and hunting the garden fairy are three treats in store for guests at the Georgian house on Fulham Road, west London.

Pippa Pop-ins also provides a nursery school, complete with afternoon teas, outings, overseas holidays and weekend get-to-know-you sessions for children embarking on their first term at prep school.

The hotel's best recommendation is its guest list: of the 4,000 children who have visited in the first year, six out of ten were on return visits.

● *Hutchinson's Domestic Staff Consultancy: 071-235 5001; Nannies Kensington: 071-937 2333/3299; Pippa Pop-ins: 071-385 2458; National Nursery Examination Board: 0727 47636.*

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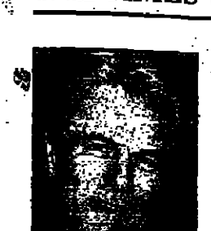
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THEATRE page 34
What's it all about? Alfie is back on the West End stage, played and directed by Adam Faith

ARTS

THEATRE page 35
Bill Alexander stages his first production as artistic director of the Birmingham Rep



Little contact between X and why

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** on Spike Lee's lengthy biography – or hagiography – of Malcolm X and (below right) other examples of the genre



Malcolm before he was X: Denzel Washington as Malcolm Little (right), the angry young man on his way to a new name, and a place in history

X marks the spot. The letter is everywhere, on baseball caps, T-shirts, key rings, American crisp packets and bus shelter advertisements. But what does it signify? Before Spike Lee's gargantuan film **Malcolm X** emerged, *Newsweek* magazine tested the man's ratings among young black Americans, who were not even a gleam in their parents' eyes when he was gunned down in New York's Audubon Ballroom in 1965. As many as 84 per cent thought the black activist a hero, though only a quarter admitted to more than a cursory knowledge of his life.

Since his film lasts three hours and 22 minutes, Lee had a golden chance to flesh out that X and educate audiences, both black and white. But Lee chose the rosy path of hagiography, casting a halo around the character that blots out much of the historical context and the questionable legacy of his years as spokesman for the Nation of Islam. Denzel Washington, hardly ever off-screen, gives a solid impersonation, and Lee directs scenes more persuasively than usual; yet in terms of overall cinematic punch, X marks the spot of a corpse.

At first, *Malcolm X* carries on like a non-musical remake of *The Cotton Club*. Here is Malcolm Little, the zoot-suited wastrel from Detroit, larking around Harlem, sucked into crime on studio sets choking with period artifice. But then comes prison and the Islamic awakening. The photography turns stark and arty.

A fellow inmate spreads the new gospel: God is black, all white men are wicked. Prancing Malcolm Little emerges as stern, bespectacled Malcolm X, spokesman for the mysterious Elijah Muhammad, founder of the Nation of Islam (a tantalising performance here from Al Freeman Jr).

Anyone observing the story from a distance would want to know more about this strange (and later discredited) prophet, who sits smug and silent at Muslim meetings while Malcolm tub-thumps from the rostrum. Yet Lee keeps quiet; just as he does about Malcolm's home life. Malcolm X's speeches are the thing: speeches on television, at rallies, at his old Boston school, promoting black pride and racial separation.

Other aspects of Malcolm's life get swept under the carpet in the interests of hero worship. After a visit to Mecca, Malcolm modified his anti-integration views, earning the enmity of Muslim extremists. Yet this gentler, kinder Malcolm never comes into clear focus. Since Lee has told interviewers his film "will have a shelf-life for eternity", its simplistic view of Malcolm X is cause for serious concern.

Malcolm X
15, MGM Shaftesbury Avenue

Toys
PG, Odeon Leicester Square

A Brighter Summer Day
ICA Cinema

Consenting Adults
15, Odeon West End

Toys is ardious in another way. A horridly expensive, whimsical fantasy set in a toy factory, Barry Levinson's film shows what can happen when a successful director runs amok with a bad idea and loses sight of his audience. Levinson made sweet comic music with his star Robin Williams in *Good Morning, Vietnam*, but the role of Leslie Zevo, nervous scion of a toy-making concern, affords them little chance of repeat business.

How can a joke breathe when each frame is choked with over-elaborate nursery-coloured decor, a million toy gadgets and characters so dull they might be wind-up creations themselves? The biscuit is taken by poor Joan Cusack as Alsatia, Zevo's sister, who dresses and moves like a rag doll and sleeps in a cloud-shaped room inside a large ornamental duck.

Levinson and Valerie Curtin's script suggests a dreadful amalgam of *Pee-Wee's Playhouse* and *Dr Strangelove*. When Michael Gambon's militaristic uncle takes control of the factory, he starts manufacturing lethal weapons disguised as video games. "We're going to fight fire with marshmallows!" Williams cries; a line typical of the film's scorching wit.

Then the special effects army takes off, staging prolonged battles so cloaked in confusion that it is hard to see whose exploding toy is whose. Laboriously unfunny, stuffed with queasy fantasies about childhood innocence and sex, Levinson's film needs a psychiatrist or an exorcist; anything but a paying public.

This is not the week for itchy spectators. After Lee's 202 minutes, how about the 237 minutes of **A Brighter Summer Day**? Please do not shy away: Edward Yang's film about restless Taiwanese youth at the turn of the 1960s grips the attention as no other offering does this week. On its festival outings in 1991, the film lasted three hours; but no one should begrudge the extra hour of this "director's cut".

At the centre of Yang's fresco, inspired by real events, stands the principled, self-absorbed 14-year-old Xiao Si'r, who gets into girl trouble and gang trouble. The narrative encompasses some 80 characters, but the beguiling freshness of Yang's actors, plucked from the streets and his student classes, keep them distinct and alive. Around them swirl much social detail, from the rising influence of American culture to the heavy shadow cast by the communist mainland.

The clarity and force of Yang's visual style, apparent from earlier features like *Taipei Story*, brings a special power to this epic tale of a disturbed society. Some aspects may well pass over Western audiences' heads; but when the gangs battle at night with torches and samurai swords, anyone can see they are watching a master director at work. *A Brighter Summer Day* plays at the ICA for just one week before making regional appearances.

More wisdom from the East can be found at the National Film Theatre, where Britain's first retrospective devoted to the director **Shiro Toyoda** is now under way. His name may not ring many bells; yet one glance at a film like *Wild Geese* reveals a supple visual dramatist who puts most current film-makers to shame.

Toyoda, who died in 1977 with some 70 features to his credit, was a man for all genres: literary adaptations, lusciously coloured ghost stories, zany comedies, tales of romantic anguish. He nursed his performers with loving care: women particularly come through shining. Go and explore. You will not be disappointed.

If you just want the old Hollywood hogwash, **Consenting Adults** might suffice. A couple in a rut are led astray by brash new neighbours. First comes an insurance fraud, then wife-swapping. After that, Matthew Chapman's script plunges so deep into twaddle that neither an esteemed director (Alan J. Pakula) nor persuasive players such as Kevin Kline, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio and Kevin Spacey can pull the film clear.

Celluloid heroics

GEOGRAPHY is about maps; history is about chaps. With current films, though, history is about considerably more. No biographical film is complete unless it comes with an open agenda to revise the record, uncover hidden truths and settle old scores.

So *Malcolm X* emphasises selected passages of its subject's preachings, trumpeting black pride and the need to avenge "400 years of white oppression". Oliver Stone in *JFK* uses Jim Garrison's investigations into the Dallas shootings to paint Kennedy as a pacifist saint and rage at all who brought Stone's generation to grief in Vietnam.

The modern biopic, the new fashion decrees, must be long and expensive, fodder for Oscars. And it must, above all, be controversial enough to generate a media overkill from bickering historians and culture gurus. On these grounds alone, Danny DeVito's *Hoffa*, which opens in Britain in a fortnight, must be judged a disaster: even with Jack Nicholson's bullish impersonation of the union leader, chum to the Mafia, no one is arguing about the film.





Rewriting history: Scott in *Patton*, Costner in *JFK*

In the print world, the biography boom has been widely viewed as the readers' response to a spread of fiction that fails to provide compelling heroes. Cinema, though, has tended to treat biography as a friend. For Hollywood scriptwriters in the 1930s and 1940s, there was no cosy incident, no song and dance, that could not be dredged from the history books.

Yet even then, film biographies hoisted their own agenda. Warner's best biopics, rousing tales of individuals fighting hardships and furthering mankind, were shaped to fit Roosevelt's New Deal.

Since the war Hollywood has had mixed fortunes. Franklin Schaffner's *Patton*, in 1969, may have roused attention thanks to George C. Scott's acting and the script's canny blend of hero-worship and criticism. But the same year people were hooting at the comic-strip antics of *Che!*, with Omar Sharif as Che Guevara and Jack Palance chewing his beard as Castro.

Julia Llewellyn Smith on how the Fifth Dimension escaped the iron hand of the censors

Chinese film goes home at last

Say "Chinese cinema" to ten people and eight will stare blankly. One will think of worthy but dull chronicles of life on a collective farm. But the one who has seen the recent work coming out of China will know that the country's directors are making films as epic as *Dr Zhivago*, as dramatic as any Greek tragedy and as beautiful as a Ming vase.

These works by the Fifth Generation, as the group of film-makers is called, have won awards all around the world. But until recently they could not be seen by the Chinese audience for which they were made. Since the events in Tiananmen Square in 1989 virtually every major film had been banned by the censors.

This Saturday, **Moving Pictures** profiles the two men who topped the censor's list: Zhang Yimou and Chen Kaige. Zhang's *Ju Dou* was the first Chinese film to be nominated for an Oscar; the following year his *Raise the Red Lantern* was also nominated. Chen's *Life on a String* stunned critics at the London Film Festival in 1991, but remains shelved at home.

There is no official explanation as to why the films were banned. None is openly critical of the regime; where they are apparently at fault is that they are exciting, original and a world apart from the socialist-realist school of cinema which portrayed China as a workers' paradise.

The pioneer film of the Fifth Generation was *Yellow Earth*, directed by Chen and with camera work by Zhang, which came out in 1984 and tells the story of a peasant family, who live a life untransformed, or even touched, by the revolution.



Powerful stuff: Gong Li in a scene from Zhang Yimou's award-winning *Red Sorghum*

Red Sorghum, Zhang's first film, won the Golden Bear, the top award at the Berlin Film Festival in 1984, and shows an even more decisive break with the past. The film, about a passionate affair between a young woman who runs a wine-making operation and one of her workers, is set in pre-revolutionary China. It evokes a beautiful but lost civilisation and deals with the questions of the individual versus the system, of sensuality versus reason. There is no doubt which side Zhang comes down on. Equally, there is no doubt that such messages influenced the growing pro-democracy movement that was crushed at Tiananmen Square, where the students were said to have sung songs from the film.

> 'Of course you can dream, but if you can't realise your dream is it worth wasting the effort?'

Not surprisingly, Zhang's next two films were banned. What was surprising was that the censors permitted the films to be made in the first place; when they knew they would not be shown.

The reason lies in China's new, business-orientated outlook and its desire for hard currency. By persuading overseas financiers to back a project the government could get a quick fix of yen, dollars or marks. In return, China provided the cast, crew and location. So pragmatic were the authorities that *Raise the Red Lantern* was wholly financed by Era International, a company based in Taiwan, which China refuses to recognise. As soon as the films were ready they would be shipped abroad, leaving the authorities with hard cash in their pockets and the people uncorrupted.

Everybody was happy with the situation, except the film-makers, who were becoming increasingly frustrated that their films could not reach the audience they had in mind. But now it seems that a quiet compromise has been struck. *The Story of Qiu Ju*, which will be released here later this year, is a radical departure from Zhang's earlier works. It was backed by a Chinese company and passed through the censors without comment.

Some critics have accused Zhang of having made a cynical attempt to worm his way into the favour of authority — and the recent, and unexpected, decision to finally screen *Ju Dou* and *Raise the Red Lantern* in China has been interpreted by many as an acknowledgement of the compromise. Chen's latest film, *Farewell to my Concubine*, also shows him moving away from his earlier, esoteric films, fit only for the arthouses, and towards the mainstream epic blockbuster.

Zhang says that he is limited artistically. "With any script I ask myself if I can make this sort of thing in China. Of course you can dream, but if you can't realise your dream is it worth wasting the effort?"

However, he denies that that his change of style is a cynical move. "If you are trapped in a single style, then you risk losing your artistic edge," he says.

But the drabness of *Qiu Ju* is deceptive. Zhang's essential theme — of a strong woman fighting the system — remains, and the twist in the plot, when it comes, is as shocking as in any of his earlier works. If Zhang has compromised it is by sacrificing his style in order to protect his content.

● *Moving Pictures is on Saturday (BBC 2, 9.15pm). The Big Parade, by Chen Kaige, will be shown at 12.10am*

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LONDON

THE MIKADO. English National Opera revives another of its greatest hits. Jonathan Miller's slick and hugely entertaining "grand-hotel" staging of the Gilbert & Sullivan classic. The cast includes Richard Suart, Anna Collins, Yanni Kelly, Barry Banks, Mark Richardson and Richard Angas. Michael Rosewell conducts.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 3161), 7.30pm.

TURANDOT After its outing to Wembley Arena Andrei Serban's reliable production gets another airing at the Royal Opera House. Eleven performances in the space of three weeks means most of the roles are shared between two casts. Tonight Gwyneth Jones, one of the great Turandots, takes the title role. Judith Howarth is Liu. Giorgio Lamberti sings Calaf and Mark Ermler conducts.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1066). 7.30pm (further performances on Sat, Tues, Mar 11 and 13)

FESTIVAL OF BRITTEN Mstislav Rostropovich steps down from the podium to give a cello recital which includes two of the pieces written for him by Britten (the suite for solo cello and Sonata, Op 65), as well as sonatas by Debussy and Shostakovich. Ian Brown is the pianist.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). 7.30pm

PHILHARMONIA Leonard Slatkin conducts the first of two concerts this week. Tonight's programme features Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 3 (with Evgeny Kissin as the soloist) flanked by MacMillan's *Sinfonietta* and Shostakovich's Sixth Symphony. On Saturday the programme offers pieces by Britten, Milner and Walton.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800). 7.30pm

COLOUR AND ARCHITECTURE. Contemporary architects from 15 different countries present a single project each, involving a significant use of colour. Inevitably much of the work could be categorised as post-Modern, but demonstrations show that even within the international modern movement colour can (and should?) play a vital part.
RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, W1 (071-580 5533). Mon-Fri, 11am-5pm, Sat, 10am-1pm, opens today until April 7.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

LONDON JAZZ COMPOSERS' ORCHESTRA: At the forefront of improvised music for some 20 years, the LJCO, led by bass player Barry Guy, begins a Contemporary Music Network tour. A diverse programme will feature Guy's new 17-movement work *Portraits*, designed to show off the talents of each member.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm

SAINT ETIENNE: Carried by the sweet, silvery voice of Sarah Cracknell the band provides pop nostalgia with a welter of 1970s references on their new album *So Tough*.
Equinox, Leicester Square, WC2 (071-437 1446), 9pm

MR A'S AMAZING MAZE PLAY Alan Ayckbourn's new children's show: a girl and dog search for stolen sounds in an old mansion where Mr Accousticos has hidden them.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Opens tonight, 7pm; then in repertoire

STEVE WRIGHT: The comedian gives the first of three West End dates, delivering his dour, deadpan humour.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, WC1 (071-580 9562), tonight-Sat, 8pm

REGIONAL

EDINBURGH Fiona Bell plays the resourceful heroine in Goldoni's **Mirandolina**, newly translated by Ranjit Bolt: an independently minded woman can twist men round her little fingers.
Royal Lyceum, Grindlay Street (031-229 9697). Free preview tonight, 7.45pm, opens tomorrow, 7.45pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat (Mar 13, 20), 3.15pm, *until Mar 27*

CARDIFF Welsh National Opera rounds off its Cardiff season this week with performances of Göran Järvefelt's gripping production of *Un ballo in Maschera* (tonight); its new production of Donizetti's grand romantic opera *La Favorita* (tomorrow), and Yannis Kokkos's disappointing new staging of *Tristan und Isolde*, a co-production with Scottish Opera (Sat).
New Theatre, Park Place (0222 394844). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, Sat, 5pm.

NORTHAMPTON: **The Melos Ensemble Vienna**, created in 1987 by Melos Konzerte and the German conductor Christian May to bring together some of the most talented younger musicians of the major Viennese orchestras, performs a programme of Mozart, J. Haydn, and J. Strauss. May conducts.
Derngate, 19/21 Guildhall Road (0604 24811), 7.30pm.

MANCHESTER: Gregory Hersov's Mobile Theatre production of **The Comedy of Errors**, set in modern times, plays here for a month before setting off on tour in May.
Royal Exchange, St Ann's Square (061-833 9833). Opens tonight, 7.30pm; then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm.

MOLD: Janet Suzman directs Timothy West and Sheila Allen in Miller's humane and moving **Death of a Salesman**.
Theatr Clwyd, Civic Centre (0352 755114). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 3pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **ANNA KARENINA**: Shared Experience's award-winning adaptation returns for a second London showing.
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 180mins.

☐ **THE ARTIFICE**: Brisk fun with social climbers and fortune hunters in revival of Mrs Centlivre's unjustly neglected Restoration comedy.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sats, 4pm. 165mins.

☐ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC**: Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

■ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA**: Rattigan's play on infatuation gets into high gear. Strong performances by Penelope Wilton and Linus Roache: exemplary production by Karel Reisz.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 140mins. Final week. Transfers to the Richmond Theatre next week.

☐ **ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE**: Brisk, pointed revival of Orton's first success, with Janet Dale and Ian Gelder as a sublimely amoral brother-and-sister team.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. 135mins.

■ **HAMLET**: Kenneth Branagh superb in Adrian Noble's first-class production. Uncut version.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Today, 12.30pm and 6.30pm. 270mins.

☐ **HAY FEVER**: Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

◩ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**: Anna Carteret, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Wilde's "insider dealing" melodrama. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 165mins.

■ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**: Stephen Daldry's thrilling Expressionist production of Priestley's soul-searcher.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm, mat Sat, 2pm. 115mins.

☐ **THE INVISIBLE MAN**: Not so cosy a venue as its birthplace in Stratford East but the show is as jolly as ever. Paul Kiev's magic tricks are amazing.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

◩ **KING LEAR**: Solid, respectable performance by Tom Wilkinson in a low-powered staging by Max Stafford-Clark. With Saskia Reeves, Hugh Ross.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. 195mins.

☐ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN**: Tremendously glossy production of the Kander & Ebb musical. It coarsens the values of Manuel Puig's novel but Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins.

☐ **LOST IN YONKERS**: Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

◩ **MISERY**: Nonsensical but chilling production of Stephen King's thriller.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☐ **LA MUSICA**: Very intense dissection of past love by Marguerite Duras: Harriet Walter's charged performance provides interest.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 90mins. Final week.

☐ **MURDER IS EASY**: But an antiquated Agatha Christie adaptation is hardly worth doing.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

◩ **MR CINDERS**: Samuel West and Sally Anne Triplett help spread more than a little happiness in the Vivian Ellis charmer reversing the Cinderella story.
King's Head, 115 Upper Street, N1 (071-226 1916). Tues-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, Sun, 3.30pm. 150mins. Final week.

◩ ***NO MAN'S LAND***: *Paul Eddington* and the author in tense, sharply comic Pinter. Riveting stuff.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mins.

◩ **ON THE PISTE**: John Godber's slight but amusing look at partner trouble in a downmarket ski resort.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats *Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 135mins.*

☐ **SNOW ORCHID**: Emotions at boiling point in a Sicilian-American family riven by mother-love and father-hate. Roger Lloyd Pack and Paola Dionisotti in strong production for London Gay Theatre Company.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. 120mins.

☐ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT**: William Gaunt, John Wells, Richard Kane, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's marvellous adaptation of Graham Greene's novel.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) .. ◩ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) .. ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) .. ◩ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ◩ **It Runs in the Family**: Playhouse (071-839 4401) .. ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) ◩ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ◩ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . ◩ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

NEW RELEASES

◆ **HONEYMOON IN VEGAS** (12): Private eye Nicolas Cage tries to save girlfriend from gambler James Caan's clutches. Andrew Bergman's agreeable, old-fashioned screwball comedy.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ ***LEON THE PIG FARMER*** (15): Jewish lad discovers his embarrassing pedigree. Exuberant British comedy that gets unduly silly. Directors, Vadim Jean, Gary Sinyor.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **Everyman** (071-435 1525) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666)

◆ **LORENZO'S OIL** (12): Gruelling real-life tale of parents battling to alleviate their son's terrible illness. With Nick Nolte, Susan Sarandon; director, George Miller.
Empire (071-497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

ROMPER STOMPER (18): Neo-Nazi skinheads on the rampage in Melbourne. Dangerously flashy debut by Australian director Geoffrey Wright.
Prince Charles (071-437 8181)

SNIPER (15): Tom Berenger and Billy Zane as US snipers in the Panama jungle. Visually taut, but wooden dialogue. Director, Luis Llosa.
MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

UNDER SIEGE (15): US battleship gets hijacked, but Steven Seagal saves the day. Familiar antics, with juicy villainy from Tommy Lee Jones and Gary Busey. Director, Andrew Davis.
Empire (071-497 9999) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeon Marble Arch** (0426-914 501)

CURRENT

BAD LIEUTENANT (18): Forceful uncomfortable study of a depraved New York cop hooked on drugs and alcohol from director Abel Ferrara. Astonishing performance by Harvey Keitel.
Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520)

◆ **HELLRAISER III: HELL ON EARTH** (18): Clive Barker's Pinhead monster returns for more bizarre carnage. Director, Anthony Hickox.
MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666)

THE LAST DAYS OF CHEZ NOUS (15): An eccentric Sydney household unravels over one hot summer. Uneven feminist drama from director Gillian Armstrong. With Lisa Harrow, Kerry Fox, Bruno Ganz.
Metro (071-437 0757)

OLIVIER OLIVIER (15): Teenager missing for six years returns home, but is it him? Fascinating story, but prosaic treatment by director Agnieszka Holland.
MGM Swiss Centre (071-439 4470)

◆ **A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT** (PG): Robert Redford's hymn to family, nature and fly fishing. Beautifully mounted, but lacking punch. With Craig Sheffer, Brad Pitt, Tom Skerritt.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

SHADOWS AND FOG (15): Woody Allen's technically dazzling but indulgent homage to German Expressionist cinema. With Mia Farrow, John Malkovich, and, very briefly, Madonna.
Lumière (071-836 0691)

A WINTER'S TALE (12): A Paris hairdresser's quest for true love. Eric Rohmer near his best: elegant, clear-eyed, realistic. A film laced with magic. Stars Charlotte Véry.
MGM Swiss Centre (071-439 4470) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** reviews a new play by South Africa's foremost dramatist

Trapped by their history of hatred

Playland
Donmar Warehouse

DONALD COOPER



Two of South Africa's leading actors: John Kani (left) and Sean Taylor in the British premiere of *Playland*

THE other day a black man from Soweto and a white man from the Pretoria suburbs shook hands on it. Cyril Ramaphosa, the top negotiator for the ANC, agreed with Roelf Meyer, of the ruling National Party, on undiluted majority rule for South Africa by the end of the century. Obviously, Athol Fugard's *Playland* was written while that concordat remained a glint in everybody's eyes, but it still constitutes its eminent *author's gritty comment on it*. Achieving reconciliation between the races will be difficult, going on impossible, given the barriers of grievance, pain and guilt between them; but perhaps, just perhaps, it can be done.

"Playland" is a fair travelling through the South African wilderness on New Year's eve 1989, and almost certainly more than a fair. A disintegrating collage of ads on the back wall ("Coming soon!") unconvincingly touts its delights, and there is a vague sound of whoopee behind it. But onstage there is little to see. The only inanimate objects are a rusty brazier, the kind the tattered protagonists of *Boesman and Lena* crouched beside, and a gilded dodgem car; the only live ones a scowling black watchman and a strutting white ex-soldier come to enjoy the fun. For Fugard, it is enough to evoke that precarious playland, his native country.

The play takes its time gathering power. At first John Kani's dour Martinus, the watchman, has little to do but invoke the hell-fire awaiting sinners, especially those who have offended the commandment against killing, among whom there is reason to suppose he counts himself. Sean Taylor's Gideon, the visitor, does most of the talking, now calling the black man "friend" and then "boy", now matily suggesting that they "let bygones be bygones" and then justifying his part in the border war against "communist" Swapo. "It's still a free country, you people haven't taken over yet," he adds; and not too nicely.

The fencing, feinting and racist banter just about hold the attention; but the feeling grows that both the temperature and the dramatic stakes are somewhat low for so tough-minded an author and so momentous a subject. But then fireworks crackle in tribute to the arrival of 1990, an offstage crowd sings "Auld Lang Syne", and Gideon, who has been showing embryonic signs of shellshock, seems mentally to explode. It is time for threats, confrontation, and confession: or, more accurately, for confessions that are given specious urgency by the waving of a kierie, or fighting stick.

Actually, what is said needs no violent accompaniment, given the eloquence of Fugard's writing and the concentrated force of both actors. The stakes rise and, with them, the temperature. The black man tells of killing the white employer who raped his woman and of his inability, even on death row, to repent of the crime; and then it is time for the white man, his voice cracking with self-disgust, to describe burying the 27 black guerrillas he and his comrades had shot. One cannot rid himself of hatred, the other of an awful, confused remorse. What hope is there for either, trapped as they are by their symbiotic histories?

For a moment, it looks as if we may be in for an ending either melodramatic or sentimental or both. "I got you and you got me," shouts Gideon. "Forgive me or kill me, that's the only choice you've got." But the alternatives in contemporary South Africa are not so clear-cut or absolute, and Fugard knows it. It would be wrong to reveal exactly what ensues; but the suggestion is that there is mutual understanding beneath all the misunderstanding. There is a faint chance of human generosity somehow muddling through.

The production, by Fugard himself, lasts only 90 minutes, but it can seem oddly wordy and repetitive, given his well-attested regard for Beckett. Again, some may think the play a bit portentous, or find even its low-key ending a mite soft, or both. But it is deeply felt and, whatever the reservations, is likely to leave you deeply moved. If you want to stay informed about South Africa, read the news pages. If you wish to share its anguish about itself, see this.

THEATRE: **Jeremy Kingston** discovers that a celebrated Sixties social drama has lost some of its charm

Faithful to Jack the Lad

Alfie
Queen's

BILL NAUGHTON's Jack the Lad character, back in the West End after 30 years, peddles the sort of male chauvinist ethic that would send him tumbling into one of the deepest circles of a feminist's hell. "What's it all about, Alfie?" Cilla trilled in the film version. Well, gorblimey, it's about pulling the birds, innit? Slapping them in the face when they gets hysterical, and dumping them smartish when they interfere with his freedom.

But Alfie (Adam Faith) would not arouse feminist ire so much as the dim bints who wrap themselves around him. Giggling Siddie (played by Glenda Jackson in 1963) just fancies a bit of fun in his car, but Gilda is mawkish and patient, Annie tearful and obedient, Lily troubled but undemanding. Ruby has more spirit (she owns three hairdressing salons) and is the only one to beat him at his own game, but Carla, a nurse, risks her career to bounce on his bed during visitors' hour and Flo — I can't place who she was — but after Flo comes Siddie again.

Yes, of course, as this parade goes by Naughton makes us see Alfie's philosophy of life as the rotten mush it is, and when Lily has an abortion — £25 the going rate those days — Naughton writes the best speech in the play. Alfie has taken himself off, leaving her to go through the ordeal on her own, and when he returns he sees what might have become his son, tiny, perfect in its detail. He surprises himself with an outburst of grief, and Faith's performance suddenly grounds itself, his voice engaging with true feeling as he stands there gazing down at his cupped hands. Until that moment, he has shown a limited range of vocal expression, and Naughton gives him a limited range of emotions to voice, but in that speech he catches the heart.

The show is Faith's debut as director and he moves his cast around pretty simply, bringing them on and taking them off as required, altering the lighting for the direct address to the audience. No great excitement results from this, but there is notably little in the writing either. The pace is slow, taking unnecessary pains to indicate domestic details. Perhaps social drama was like that 30 years ago.

Direct address was a novelty then, though not unknown, and Faith moves easily between confiding in us and taking part in the action. The abortion incident must have been sensationally shocking and is still strong stuff, graced with a performance by Leonard Fenton as the doctor — combining distaste with cupidity — and Natasha Pyne's tense, numbed Lily. The play ran for five months in 1963 and is scheduled for three weeks this time round. That seems about right.

JAZZ: **Clive Davis** is impressed by hearing the famous violinist exercise his improvisatory skills

Catch a fiddler on the hoof

Nigel Kennedy
Ronnie Scott's
Birmingham

OUTSIDE, the scene was surprisingly quiet. No screaming mobs of teenyboppers trying to force their way through the glass doors. No sign, either, of irate classical music lovers marching across from Symphony Hall to burn effigies of the incorrigible Kennedy.

Nige plays jazz and Jimi. The mere thought of the violinist tackling "Purple Haze" is enough to send traditionalists running for cover. Would he treat his audience to two million amps of feedback? Or would he perhaps set his bow on fire at the end of the set?

The headline-writers will have been disappointed. Yes, that was a jug of lager by his chair, and he was wearing a battered pair of jeans decorated with a Villa badge, and yes, and he did let slip the F-word a couple of times. But while it had the tentative air of a work-in-progress, much of the music itself was a good deal more subtle and impressive than all the play-acting.

Kennedy's residency was originally planned as a warm-up prior to a studio session. The album has been delayed, but the show went ahead nonetheless. Rough edges were apparent, and some barnstorming arrangements were closer in spirit to the Electric Light Orchestra than the cool sophistication of the Kronos Quartet. But it was obvious that leader and sextet were growing in confidence.

Kennedy has crossed over to jazz before, most notably on a sensitive violin-and-bass setting of the Ellington suite "Black, Brown and Beige". He seemed less comfortable fronting the jazz-rock group London Wasp Factory where he was constrained by the more inflexible backbeat. The unorthodox instrumentation of his new band gives him more room for manoeuvre, with Rory McFarlane's bass and the acoustic guitars of John Etheridge and Sagat Guirey balanced against Caroline Dale's cello and Bill Hawkes's viola.

Though Kennedy may not yet make a totally convincing jazz improviser — like late-period Miles Davis, he is drawn to repetition of short, fragmented phrases — the boisterous ensemble playing carried him through.

In such a risky venture it also helps to have a musician of the stature of Etheridge by your side. A veteran of Soft Machine and a former sideman with Stephane Grappelli, he gave the sextet the varied rhythmic pulse it needed. The jazz standards included "All Blues" and a version of Herbie Hancock's slyly funky "Canteloupe Island". Midway through, Kennedy stepped back to allow the singer-guitarist Steven Duffy to perform two lugubrious songs with rudimentary string accompaniment. In all, a mixed evening but one with a welcome element of adventure. The lad done well.

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Curtain up on Brum's newest act

Bill Alexander has big ambitions for the Birmingham Rep, starting with his debut staging of *Othello*. **Andy Lavender** reports

A comedy currently running in London features an eligible bachelor who changes places with his own chauffeur and assumes the name "Birmingham" to complete the masquerade. The connotations of smoke and concrete, it seems, are appropriate to someone slumming it among the kitchen staff and servants.

West Midlanders may not appreciate the joke. Indeed, judging by recent pronouncements from council offices, the city of Birmingham is hot on Manchester's trail in the pursuit of provincial pre-eminence. As with Manchester, its new vibrancy is powered by culture as much as by commerce. Simon Rattle has brought the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra to national prominence, and the Birmingham Royal Ballet, under Peter Wright, is comfortably ensconced at the Hippodrome. Now Birmingham's Repertory Theatre is stepping into the spotlight. Bill Alexander was appointed its artistic director last November, and his inaugural season opens next week with his production of Shakespeare's *Othello*.

> 'My plan is thought of as being rather dangerous, radical and likely to fail'

Alexander will hardly suffer from complacency. Before his appointment the Rep's houses were only half full. In other parts of the country regional theatres are struggling to stay afloat in the wake of local council cuts in funding for 1993-94. Birmingham City Council's pledge of £666,000 for the Rep looks secure, but Alexander still has his work cut out chasing the elusive grail of combined artistic and commercial success.

He comes armed with a very definite artistic policy. "It is to do works chosen from one of three areas," he explains. "Acknowledged classics of world drama; great plays that are almost never done; and new writing." The Rep's studio theatre will be dedicated exclusively to the latter.

This, then, is the blueprint designed to put Birmingham's theatre on the map. Alexander's opening season features Ben Jonson's *Volpone* and Patrick Hamilton's 1920s thriller, *Rope*, along with *Othello*. Alexander is quietly spoken and undemonstrative, so only one hackle rises at the suggestion that this is a somewhat safe and conservative bill.

"It would be safe at the RSC," he responds, "but it's not at all safe here. In fact it's thought of as being rather dangerous and radical, and likely to fail in some ways. What most people would consider safe is a season that consists of an Alan Ayckbourn play, a Willie Russell play and *Move Over Mrs Markham*. When our policy develops we will be doing plays like *The Silver Tassie*, *The Atheist's Tragedy* and *Masks and Faces*. These are very high risk. And," he adds, "I think *Rope* is a much better play than the handle 'Twenties thriller' suggests."

Mention Hitchcock's cinema version of the latter, and you fancy Alexander suppresses a cringe. "A very, very bad film," he demurs.

This is a man of the theatre talking. Alexander is an honorary associate director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, for whom he worked for 14 years. He admits that the RSC *modus operandi*, focused on classic theatre and to a lesser extent new plays, has been a decisive influence on his vision for Birmingham. "This will not, he insists, lead to a reverent, literary theatre. There will be slots for very different touring work, perhaps including experimental dance and productions by leading European performance companies. The mix is canny: a zestful helping of modernity alongside a main course of prestigious classic theatre.

The implicit ambition, of course, is for the Rep to attain major national status, sufficient to challenge the cultural supremacy of the CBSO and the Birmingham Royal Ballet. Alexander refuses to paint either operation as a rival, however. "I see us as the third part of the equation," he states, "so that we become a national theatre in the way that they are a national orchestra and a national ballet."

Birmingham's star outfits, however, are "national" partly in that they tour around the country. For building-based theatre companies this has proved difficult. The exceptions to the rule — Cambridge Theatre Company and Glasgow's Citizens Theatre, for example — have proved that national exposure lends a welcome allure. Alexander, not surprisingly, is keen to see Rep productions tour, but remarks that this depends on "delicate" negotiations still underway with the Arts Council.

Meanwhile he knows that prosperity begins at home; and that he has limited time in which to deliver it. At least the signs for thespian activity are auspicious. The old Rep theatre (the new Rep is an expanded modern version) is now staging shows again, and an enterprising group of actors is set to launch the Birmingham Library Theatre later this month. The city's flagship theatre has its own air of expansiveness. Alexander has increased the rehearsal period to six weeks; and his production of *Othello* boasts a cast of 32 including non-professional performers. In any case, the theatre has one of the largest stages in the country, a yawning cavern of a space. This poses its own problems.

"With *Othello* and *Volpone* I am trying to develop an aesthetic, in a way I have not worked before," Alexander explains. "And I should be devastated if it is deemed to be artistically a failure. It's to do with a certain way of looking at space, movement and lighting, as opposed to set and a socially conceived ambience. In fact the set is virtually non-existent. With *Othello* there is a sense that it is placeless and timeless."

The hardest test of this more abstract kind of theatre will come when the accountants look at the facts and figures. "Rightly I will be judged by the board on box office," Alexander says, "and if after 18 months there has been no significant improvement the board would be absolutely right to think about sacking me. Either the policy will work and I'll stay, or the policy won't work and I'll go."

There is more than one man's employment resting on the outcome; more even than the well-being of theatre in the West Midlands. It is a question of civic status. If Alexander is successful, it will be a little less certain that calling yourself "Birmingham" will automatically raise a laugh in theatre circles.

● *Othello is in preview at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Centenary Square (021-236 4455), tomorrow and Saturday, opening on Tuesday*



JOHN POLTER

Bill Alexander, on stage in Birmingham: 'Either the policy works and I stay, or it doesn't and I go'

CONCERTS

Tippett surveyed from top to tail

BBC SO/Cleobury
Barbican

On nights when the *London Symphony* Orchestra is not delivering its blockbuster Britten festival, the Barbican Hall is filling up with a more modest BBC Beethoven/Tippett series. The juxtaposition rekindles old comparisons: about "effortless" Britten being the *Mozart of our century*, while Tippett took the rockier path of Beethovenian complexity.

That analogy is useful on a technical level at least. "I don't know whose music is more difficult to play," a fine orchestral viola player once told me. "Britten's, because he knows exactly what each instrument is capable of; or Tippett's, because he doesn't." You can argue that this is a Beethovenian quality in Tippett. After all, if Beethoven had been guided by what human voices were "capable of", he would never have written the *Missa Solemnis*.

But other Beethoven/Tippett comparisons may fall apart as this series unfolds. Tuesday's main item was Tippett's First Symphony, punchily delivered by the BBC SO under Nicholas Cleobury. Cunningly, it was preceded by Beethoven's *Consecration of the House* overture, presumably to establish the rapport between the latter's mock-Handelian counterpoint and the former's mock-madrigalian syncopations. Yet the Tippett sounded far closer to the anti-Teutonic school of Vaughan Williams (the very "English pastoral" tendency that he detested!) than to the titanic struggle of a Beethoven symphony.

Tippett was 40 when the First Symphony was premiered, but he was a late developer and the work clings student-like to certain formal devices: near-incessant two-part counterpoint in the first movement; an earnest repeated-bass in the second; and a double fugue in the finale which overcomes one grinding gear-change to sustain a wonderful ending.

The third movement has more freedom, and this lively scherzo comes closest to Beethoven in spirit. Overall, however, the symphony shows an utterly original musical mind still in the making. The marvellous thing is that, nearly 50 years on, that quirkily brilliant mind is *still* in the making, and we are still being enriched by his exploration. The series continues on Tuesday.

RICHARD MORRISON

Too much freedom

Hallé/Nagano
Free Trade Hall
Manchester

The problem with Beethoven's Choral Symphony is what to perform with it. The most likely solution is one lapidary work before the interval, something short but tough enough. Kent Nagano's idea of beginning the concert with Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* and Webern's Symphony Op 21, then going straight on to the Beethoven without an interval, was characteristically radical and interesting at least in prospect.

In other circumstances than this particular (sold-out) Hallé concert in the Free Trade Hall, it might have worked. Both the Mozart and the Webern are miniatures and, since they offer no competition to the Choral Symphony in terms of scale or expressive ambition, they cannot be squashed by it.

But after a late start and with the comings and goings on the platform between the various items, the preliminaries seemed merely casual rather than part of a purposeful strategy, delicately performed though they were.

As for the Choral Symphony, it was a dubiously motivated interpretation but a highly effective performance. Nagano made the lyrical most of whatever legato melody there is in the first movement, caressing the rough surfaces away where he could and securing maximum contrast by doubling the woodwinds in the stormy climaxes. The scherzo was appropriately dynamic, the slow movement attractively phrased by the strings but made uneasy by precarious wind intonation and temporarily distorted by a too prominent featuring of the fourth-horn solo.

Most of the doubts were associated with the choral finale, where the main theme was introduced, not quietly, but colourlessly at some barely perceptible level below pianissimo: the intention was no more subtle, it seemed, than to blow that passage away with the next entry of the full orchestra, the unauthentic quadruple wind carrying the dynamic far above the prescribed forte. The effect was undeniably dramatic and, moreover, the intensity was sustained to the end, the Hallé Choir displaying remarkable stamina and retaining a firm balance. It was brilliant but scarcely joyful.

GERALD LARNER

PHYSICAL THEATRE: **Kate Bassett** reviews the new show by Philippe Genty



MARILYN KINGWILL

Playing the mating game: Compagnie Philippe Genty performs *Forget Me Not* at Sadler's Wells Theatre

Funny things to dream about

Forget Me Not
Sadler's Wells

Philippe Genty's new dance piece is as irrational as dreams. A woman in bridal white passionately manhandles a limp lifesize puppet in a tux — the ultimate stuffed shirt — determinedly tangoing to Presley's "It's Now or Never". A chimp bustles by in an antique ballgown of purple crushed velvet, then suddenly squats for a primitive scratch. Maybe both want a good groom.

There is, actually, an oblique logic running its subterranean course here, connecting Genty's sequence of short scenarios which explore mating rituals and sexual fears and fantasies. It is, in fact, a piece about the underworld: the private underworld of the subconscious.

Engulfing the stage, a pale sheet of silk ripples, resembling a vast brain (the collective unconscious?). It billows up like a troubled sea to settle slowly and reveal the outlines of mysterious shapes — a mesmerising metaphor for memories and suppressed fears being brought to the surface.

Genty is devoted to the breaching of boundaries. *Forget Me Not* melds puppetry with dance, clowning and sculptural designs. The latter ranges from the beauty of swirled silk to the bouncing humour of a giant scrotum in inflated rubber.

One of Genty's greatest gifts is, indeed, to cross continually the borderline between serious and comic. In a nightmare of predatory male sexuality, a minute female puppet wanders lost across a many-headed maggot, its phallic heads reaching down to swallow her up as she passes.

The male dancers, eyeing up the female, now hop about hopefully in these moulded-foam penises looking like eager boys in sleeping bags at an overnight party. Each hangs out a pair of false legs over the lip and, immediately, they appear to recline like big businessmen posing in tilt-back chairs. They are, nevertheless, obviously powerless, led a dance by penises with a mind of their own.

Not everything works. The female chimpanzee — a "universal mother" apparently — watches the whole thing from her throne. Yet, though her presence and periodic interruptions seem to constitute the work's outer narrative frame, she ends up oddly sidelined. Besides, her monkeying around in a dress can be irritating, not helped by the aroma of PG Tips about it all.

The few circus routines, a slapstick of sloshing water and slipping over, are over-extended. But more often Genty's dancework, like dreamwork, condenses multiple meanings. He also wisely qualifies this world of mechanical women and Magritte-style anonymous besuited men who have paper bags for heads, with moments of physical passion, grief and tenderness. Visually riveting and superbly performed, *Forget Me Not* is quintessentially dream-like: simultaneously elusive and endlessly suggestive.

DANCE

Steps towards a city's centenary

Northern Ballet
Grand, Leeds

Congratulations are in order to any city enlightened enough to celebrate the centenary of its incorporation with a year-long arts festival — especially a city such as Leeds which habitually spends £17 million a year on the arts. As part of the festivities, four new ballets have been commissioned, two from organisations based in the city and the other two from Northern Ballet Theatre which is dancing them at the Grand all this week.

Both are plotless display pieces, but contrasted in technique and mood. Graham Lustig's *D'Ensemble* deploys a cast of five women, five men in classic style to Dvorák's Serenade, Op 44 (re-scored by John Longstaff for NBT's orchestra but retaining something of its original preponderance of wind instruments). Derek Williams's *Extenzion* is a jazzy piece using 17 dancers and a specially written score by Philip Feeney.

Their similarities include both starting with the men alone, and both being full of comings and goings among the dancers. Consequently, performing one immediately after the other detracts from their impact; better, surely, to put the evening's one dramatic work between them instead of at the end. This is a revival of *A Simple Man*, NBT's ballet about L.S. Lowry with choreography by Gillian Lynne and music by Carl Davis.

Presumably this was left until last as it contains the only big star roles, with Christopher Gable and Lynn Seymour appearing at some performances as the artist and his mother. But although Seymour's performance is as subtly shaded as when the ballet was new five years ago, Gable's seems to have become rather affected, with a bizarre little-boy walk to show the character's immaturity, and shameless playing for pathos.

Besides, the work is overlong for its content, with a fading finish. The crowd-pleasing showbiz emphasis of Williams's choreography for *Extenzion* would complete the evening better, even if Feeney's music is just empty rhetoric and Craigie Aitchison's backcloth looks like one of those expensive, pointless greetings cards, while his costumes wrap the dancers in distracting layers. The cast, led by Marie-Laure Agrapart and Mercedes Villanueva, put it over with snappy glamour.

Lustig's *D'Ensemble* is a little on the bland side, and although extremely well crafted to its attractive Dvorák music, it could afford more of a flourish at times. But the costumes by Kaffe Fassett are a definite asset: silky dresses for the women in vivid colours with contrasted geometric patterns at neck and shoulders, chunky knitted tops worn over tights for the men.

This programme will be given at most stops on NBT's spring and summer tour, which is supported by BT.

JOHN PERCIVAL

A TIMES SPECIAL READER OFFER

INVADE MY PRIVACY

At the Riverside Studios

The Times is offering readers the chance to attend the opening performance of *Invade My Privacy*, which is a musical celebration of the works of Fran Landesman.
Our Theatre Club is hosting the *first-night party on March 10 at* the Riverside Studios in West London.

THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

For only £15 a ticket *Times* readers are offered:
● The best seats in the house
● Exclusive invitation to a post-show party to meet the cast

THE WONDERFUL poetry of Fran Landesman was first performed at the King's Head in Islington at a special charity performance. So successful was it that the King's Head box office found itself inundated with callers trying to find out when the show was next to be staged.



The poet and lyricist Fran Landesman is one of a kind. Her work combines pathos and humour and glows with tough wisdom gleaned from a lifetime of riding in fast convertibles and hanging out in smoky bars. As an art student in New York in the 1950s she was part of the Kerouac, Ginsberg scene. Her song "The Ballad of the Sad Young Men" has been recorded by Ella Fitzgerald, Barbra Streisand and Rikki Lee Jones.

This is an excellent opportunity to see the show at the Riverside Studios, before it transfers to the West End. After the show you are invited to the backstage party to meet Fran Landesman, the cast and the director. Call the Club's booking service on 071-413 1412, quoting The Times and Sunday Times Theatre Club. If you can't make the first night, the show runs until April 3. Call the box office on 081-748 3354. Performances start at 7.45pm.

Though ubiquitous, the consumer society is a recent phenomenon. **Harold James** believes its history is only just being written

A nation of customers

CONSUMPTION
and the World of Goods
Edited by John Brewer and Roy Porter
Routledge. £75

The economic process involves a continual negotiation between demand and supply. They constitute a yin and yang, opposites which require each other. Analysing the one without the other is a quite futile activity.

Economic historians have often been obsessed with production. They have told the story of the Industrial Revolution as a sequence of innovations, technologies and ingenious gadgets. They presented the most important development of the last two centuries as the application of machinery to manufacture. They simply assumed that there would be a market for the resulting products, that consumption flows from increased wealth and production. They ignored why people choose to purchase, and what they choose as the object of their desires.

That they have been mistaken is the premise of the two dozen contributors to this collection of essays. The authors all know better: while traditional economic history analysed the wrong questions, they hope to get to the heart of man (and particularly woman) the consumer. Their task is more than just redressing a historiographical balance. Here is a self-reflective product from the word processors of the children of the consumer society.

It is perhaps a result of a new awareness of how consumption functions in our own age. One way of regarding the post-war superpower rivalry is as a contest between the consumer society and the producer state. The ideological system of the latter assumed that heavy industrial activity and the making of intermediate producer goods represented something morally superior to consumer baubles and trinkets. The most important source of dynamism in the consumer society lay in the existence of choice as a motor of dynamism. Or, as a cynic might put it, in the end the Walkman won against the heavy steel plant.

The authors of this volume are tackling two central questions. First, why should we consume? Secondly, why do so many religions, beliefs and value systems condemn consumption as luxury, extravagance and vice? It is one of the fascinations of this collection that the responses offered are rather mixed and sometimes quite contradictory. In this it is quite characteristic of modern historical practice. There are represented here all the familiar types of the modern historian: the self-obsessed; the iconoclast; and the followers of the Job school (there is nothing new under the sun).

The self-obsessed do not move beyond the late 20th century, even when they deal with ostensibly historical topics. They are so concerned with their own time and with presenting a solution to its problems that their historical concern appears almost marginal. Both Jean-Christophe Agnew and Barbara Maria Stafford pick out aspects of the world they live in and attempt to use the past as a part of an exercise in cultural criticism. Agnew sees in his time the hegemony of a "culture industry". Stafford is worried by the information revolution, which she believes will require a movement away from "rational linguistic" communication and towards a greater emphasis on visualisation — avoid logorrhoea and become non-verbal, might be her maxim.



Consumption devoutly to be wished: this ring, with cameo of Pope Pius VII, was given to Cardinal Caleppi for foiling French looters in Portugal. From Diana Scarisbrick's *Rings*: Thames & Hudson, £32

The iconoclasts want to put a "consumer revolution" alongside the classical Industrial Revolution, and develop an interesting Anglo-American emphasis. Some contributions examine the extraordinary distance over which consumer goods were transported in the 18th century. Londoners claimed that every English county was involved in providing them with clothing and furniture. But similar goods were also shipped across the Atlantic: the American colonists demanded thousands of different consumer items, almost all coming from the motherland. One of the contributors, Tim Breen, has described the British empire as an "empire of goods"; what took place under George Washington was a different kind of consumer revolution to the one we would normally imagine. The consumers made their own revolution.

Finally, and to my mind most successfully, comes a redating exercise. A significant number of the authors of this volume want to move away from the 18th century focus given by the editors. They point out that the rises in domestic demand occurred well before the Industrial Revolution, and that the most dramatic example occurred not in England but in the Netherlands.

Two of the most striking essays concern the Dutch: Simon Schama gives a vigorous account of cultural representation of the Dutch combination of material well-being and temperance. Jan de Vries shows how in early modern Europe a search for more diversity in consumption led to a greater willingness of family units to produce — in order to be able to exchange. Here he has integrated all sides of economic activity: demand but also supply, and most importantly of all exchange. The same issue arises in a very interesting and sophisticated study of early modern inventories and trade flows. Carole Shammas chronicles successive waves of consumerism: the enthusiasm for tulips and tobacco in the 17th century, then for tea and gin (early 18th century), then for cheap textiles. All were the subject of the same process of élite demand and scarcity, increasing supply, consequent price reductions, and popularisation. Emulation seems a natural human quality, whose application is limited by the availability of resources and the constraints of supply.

If that is the case, we need to look at the way supply worked, and at how demand was met. Just consuming, as the 17th-century Dutch knew well, could not be a recipe for long-term success. The practice of non-consuming is vital to the continuance of consumer choice. An even larger time-frame might have helped to put the issue in a clearer perspective. While conspicuous consumption is as old as the pyramids — at least — conspicuous non-consumption is not. And it is the latter that provides the basis for the modern economic experience.

Harold James is professor of history at Princeton. His books include The German Slump *(OUP) and* A German Identity, 1770-1990 *(Weidenfeld & Nicolson).*

The cheerful science

Oliver Letwin

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS SOCIETY
By Samuel Brittan
University College, Swansea, £1.50

LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND EFFICIENCY
By J. E. Meade
Macmillan, £40

The journalist Samuel Brittan and the economist J. E. Meade provide two striking examples of the clarity and moral force that characterise the English mind at its finest.

The argument of Brittan's J. C. Rees Memorial Lecture (available from the Registry, University College of Swansea, Swansea SA2 8PP) is that "society", "nation", and "state" are mere abstractions actually embodied in concrete, flesh-and-blood individuals.

Brittan believes that this point, once recognised, prevents various immoral, illiberal and inhumane attitudes from taking hold. When the abstractions are resolved into the individuals that compose them, "fraternity" with those individuals is evoked. As a result, horrors such as the needless bombing or the torture of other human beings can no longer be defended simply by a callous wave of the hand towards the interests of state or nation.

Brittan makes his argument with subtlety, charm and force. And what he says is surely true. Whether it is the whole truth is more questionable. One does not get from his tract a sense of the historicity of the individual consciousness — the degree to which we, living now as concrete individuals, are at least to a considerable degree formed by the society (more widely, the civilisation) within which we have grown up and whose language, traditions and practices lived before us. How our emergence from such a collective past is compatible (as it undoubtedly is) with the individuality of the persons presently constituting our society: that is a mystery deeper than Brittan chooses to dig. But these are 33 pages very well worth reading.

Professor Meade's book is considerably longer, but the volume of ideas per page is at least as great. Meade argues that economic efficiency (the generation of the highest technically possible average standard of living) requires free market pricing of both labour and product, since it is only by such pricing that resources are allocated where they can best be used. However, at times when the marginal product of labour (the amount produced by one extra labourer) is low, the free market pricing of labour will lead to low wages.

In one sense, this will be good since, at these low wages, the labour market will "clear" and there will be no unemployment. But, in another sense it will be bad, since workers will earn much less than the *average* value contributed by their labour and will consequently be poor. Meanwhile, the (comparatively few) owners of efficiently-used capital will be paying workers very little and will themselves be getting rich. As a result, although the standard of living of the society as a whole will be optimal, there will be huge (and probably growing) inequalities between rich and poor.

Having diagnosed this tension between the requirement for economic efficiency and the requirement for an equitable distribution of money, Meade offers a cure, consisting in essence of five social medicines:

(1) "labour/capital partnerships" in which workers receive not only a free market price for their labour (based on the marginal product of labour), but also a dividend (related to the long-term contribution of their labour to the profit of the firm);

(2) capital transfer taxes proportional to the wealth of the recipient, to encourage a gradually more even distribution of capital over time;

(3) the gradual elimination of the national debt and the investment of budget surpluses by the state not in traditional nationalised industries but in minority stock holdings;

(4) the distribution of the dividends from this national capital and of other, tax-based revenues in the form of a universal negative income tax, with a high but not penal positive tax rate on the first tranche of everybody's earnings so that the measure is affordable without creating an unemployment trap; and

(5) the encouragement of better intermediaries for popular capitalism so that small savers can benefit from the economies of scale inherent in large investment portfolios.

Taken together, these prescriptions represent a remarkable effort to combine economic logic with a tolerable distribution of wealth and income. One might question the speed with which something along the lines of labour/capital partnerships can in practice be made universal, or the speed with which the national debt can be eliminated, and one might wonder whether the heavy capital transfer taxes (even if designed in Meade's way), would provide too great a disincentive to the wealth-creators.

But these and other questions raised by the book merely indicate how penetrating an analysis it is. For anyone who is interested in long-range economic and social policy, Meade is an absolute must. Let us hope that our political leaders will take the book with them on their Easter holidays.

Jaw-jaw better than trade war

Ronald Brownstein

TURNING JAPANESE
The Fight for Industrial Control of the New Europe
By Tim Jackson
HarperCollins, £16.99

HEAD TO HEAD
The coming economic battle among Japan, Europe and America
By Lester Thurow
Nicholas Brealey, £9.99 pbk

Are there any industrial countries not now accusing their competitors of tilting the tables in international trade? Steelworkers in Germany and Brazil, farmers in France and Japan, car workers in the United States and Britain, all nervously find their fates linked to obscure trade negotiations in Brussels, Washington and Tokyo.

It may be that such anxiety is the defining characteristic of the new global economic order. It wasn't so long ago that a young man could walk into a car factory in Detroit or Stuttgart at 18 and expect to bend metal there profitably throughout his working life. But as Bill Clinton frankly acknowledged, those days are forever gone. Now workers of the world are united less by class antagonism than a common fear of losing jobs to distant competitors who will toil longer hours for smaller wages.

Books forecasting the twists of this ongoing economic upheaval have become a global growth industry in themselves. Two new entries are by Tim Jackson, a British journalist who has been stationed in Tokyo and Brussels; and by Lester Thurow, dean of the management school at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Far more modest in its ambitions, Jackson's book is also more rewarding. Calmly but firmly, Jackson raises an alarm that Japanese corporate giants with a foothold on the European continent might be the biggest winners as Europe completes the integration of the world's largest market.

To Jackson, the risk is not that Japan has fused government and business into an invincible mutant capitalism, as some of the critics of Japan (known as "revisionists") have argued. Rather, European firms have delayed the hard task of learning to compete with Sony, Toyota and Toshiba by looking for government bail-outs and holding to the belief that Japanese success must be rooted in fundamentally unfair behaviour.

In his "post-revisionist" zeal, Jackson perhaps excessively downplays the impact of governmental industrial policy in Japan's economic success. But his assessment of Japan's weaknesses — particularly in its archaic financial system — is telling, and his advice to European and American firms facing Japan is surely sound: to emulate better their competitors' single-minded passion for "continuous improvement". In his own efforts, Jackson could have learned something from the focused Japanese manufacturers he celebrates. His book frequently wanders away from its ostensible subject. But Jackson is an engaging writer and an amiable, unassuming guide to the new economic battlefield.

In its discursiveness, Thurow's book resembles Jackson's. In all other respects, it could not be more different. Thurow is loud, flip, and frustratingly distant. *Head to Head* reads as though it was composed in a comfortable Cambridge, Mass., office, with a nice view of the Charles River out the window and a stack of newspaper clippings on the desk, helpfully assembled by a graduate assistant. The shopfloors and corporate headquarters that Jackson tours are nowhere in sight.

Thurow has a fatal weakness for sweeping, oracular predictions. The emphasis is on drama, not consistency. Thus on page 251 he declares: "One hundred years from now, historians looking back are most apt to to say that the twenty-first century belonged to Japan." Then, a mere seven pages later, comes this: "Future historians will record that the twenty-first century belonged to the House of Europe!"

When he sticks to the here and now, Thurow can be a provocative thinker. He takes an intriguing view of the drift toward regional trading blocks in North America, Europe and Asia. Thurow accepts the concern of most economists that such new blocks will produce greater restrictions on trade between the regions. But he argues that the elimination of barriers within blocks is likely to yield a net increase in total world trade and prosperity.

Jackson fears that if European integration becomes an excuse for building protectionist walls — as he suspects — continental companies will not be forced to make the difficult internal adjustments that will allow them to compete elsewhere. Jackson's argument has merit. But it slights the political difficulty any democratic government faces in exposing its constituents to the full gale of the global marketplace. None of the adjustments demanded by international competition come without wrenching social costs.

The safest prediction about the next century may be that continued globalisation will reduce the ability of individual governments to assure the economic security their citizens crave. As Thurow suggests, that erosion of national sovereignty is good cause for the major industrial powers to join in the development of an international economic order that encourages co-operation. But the possibility remains just as great that in responding to the anxieties of their constituents, governments in Europe, Japan and America alike will drift onto the road of economic nationalism, protectionism and nativism.

Ronald Brownstein is a political correspondent for the Los Angeles Times. *He is presently in Japan.*

Immortal longings

Daniel Johnson

A HISTORY OF GOD
By Karen Armstrong
Heinemann, £14.99

Gods are legion, but there is only one True God. All three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity, Islam — make absolute, transcendent and mutually exclusive claims to knowledge about God, revealed by Him. All three are historical religions, rooted in events which took place not in myth but in the recorded past. If it is legitimate to make comparisons between these three evolving systems of belief, ought not "a history of God" to be possible? Necessary, even?

Well, no, actually. Karen Armstrong has thought long and hard about the Logos, but the premise on which her book rests strikes me as illogical. The whole notion of a "history of God" confuses the process of revelation (which does indeed have a history) with its content: creation is not identical with Creator, divines are distinct from the Divinity. The title of Stephen Hawking's *Brief History of Time* contains a similar contradiction, but at least time is theoretically finite: a history of eternity, on the other hand, would have been a meaningless proposition. The history of religion has much in common with secular history, but an attempt to historicise God would be metaphysics, not history.

And that is just what Karen Armstrong is doing in this book. Her *History of God* is less a history than a tract, as much a product of the 1990s as David Friedrich Strauss's *Das Leben Jesu*, the first secular life of Christ, was of the 1830s. History is about extinguishing present preoccupations in order to rediscover the past. Armstrong's own theological and ecclesiological views shine through on every page: her loathing of fundamentalists, her distrust of authority, her preference for inner illumination over outward observance.

"We have to decide whether the word 'God' has any meaning for us today," she declares. This already assumes that her primary purpose is not that which is proper to the historian of religion — to describe, to comprehend, to disinter. Armstrong is engaged in a private wrestling with her conscience, one which she does indeed wish to share with us, but hers is emphatically not an attitude of humility arising from settled convictions.

Armstrong's book has great merits. An ex-nun, this formidably intelligent woman knows enough about both Judaism and Islam to be appreciated by Jewish and Muslim scholars. Her empathy with Jewish Kabbalists and Sufi mystics is strong, and she is well-informed about German religious thought, Jewish as well as Christian, of the past two centuries. The trouble is that she crams too much into fewer than 500 pages. It is impossible to do justice to figures like Martin Buber or Franz Rosenzweig in a few sentences. Perhaps she will return to these writers in a later work.

Armstrong is more critical of Christianity, especially the western churches, than of other monotheistic or even polytheistic religions. Roman Catholics in particular are likely to resent the jaundiced account of the medieval and counter-reformation church, while the remarkable survival of Catholicism in the hostile climate of the late 20th century interests her less than what she sees as its defects. But whenever she deals with Christian mysticism, agnosticism and heterodoxy, Armstrong offers valuable insights. She devotes much space to the discussion since 1945 about the meaning of Auschwitz for Judaism and Christianity. It is a pity that she did not mention one of those who perished in that camp: Edith Stein, philosopher and saint, a Catholic nun who was murdered for her Jewish origins. Her life and thought were an inspiration to those who knew her; they belong in any history of religious thought.

For staunch believers, *A History of God* is a challenge. Those whose faith is weak may find that the book's relentless relativism feeds their doubts, and offers plentiful ammunition for those who disparage religion. But the author is not hostile to God. Having come to know so much about what has been written about Him, her curiosity is not yet satisfied. The rich evening of religious eclecticism gives way to the dark night of the soul. Atheism is no longer the brave option, if it ever was. For an adventurous spirit such as Karen Armstrong, the only way forward is back to her church.

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Temptations of Christ (Matthew IV. 1-11): a page of the breviary made in Flanders, c. 1497, for Isabella of Castile. From *The Isabella Breviary* by Janet Backhouse (British Library, £10.95 pbk)

Why he has all the good tunes

Ian Bostridge

THE CHATTO BOOK OF THE DEVIL
Edited by Francis Spufford
Chatto and Windus, £15.99

Francis Spufford is a veteran anthologist. His previous collection was *The Chatto Book of Cabbages and Kings*, an anthology of lists in literature. It had an introduction with a rare literary backbone.

His new anthology seems to offer less scope for lateral thinking. The sales pitch is all too obvious and unedifying. How many loved ones are going to give or receive this book without the shadow of a smirk? What is more, the overall approach, with headings alternately cosy and pop, and an introduction by the Devil himself, appears disconcertingly arch at first sight.

The expected Devils are here. Milton's glossy rebel angel out of *Paradise Lost*; his duller tempter from *Paradise Regained*; numerous Satans from Scripture, apocryphal and otherwise; a variety of Mephistopheleses from versions of the Faust legend. Less familiar demons stalk the pages too. My own favourite is the Doppelgänger-*cum*-Devil Gil Martin, in James Hogg's masterly dissection of the Calvinist mentality on the brink of damnation, *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner* (1824). The diabolical pact from Matthew Collins's gothic shocker, *The Monk* (1796), comes a close second, although I missed the final scene in which the Devil betrays the apostate Abbot Ambrosio and casts him to a lingering death (what other book can boast a villain who ravishes his victim on a bed of putrefying corpses?).

I also missed a revealing passage from *The Mill on the Floss* in which little Maggie Tulliver embarrasses her father, dismantling the family's claims to gentility by chattering enthusiastically about the Devil and his fearful red eyes. It was not until the 19th century that belief in the Devil, or in witchcraft, was largely ousted from the rural world view. And the demise of such beliefs was associated with the rise of "politeness" as much as with the growth of rationalism.

Spufford's introduction is full of insight. His history of the Devil — imitating Daniel Defoe's — identifies the old enemy as a paradoxical quantity. The Devil, he thinks, was invented to solve a theological conundrum, "to take the pressure off the Lord by sopping up some fraction of evil in the world". Yet, as Old Nick complains, he could not do too much without detracting from God's omnipotence. Hence his repertoire has been limited to a bit of tempting and chastisement. This is not only a matter of intellectual history. It is also a key to the literary character of much writing about the Devil, whether as comic turn, poor relation or titillating extra. We do end up feeling "sympathy for the Devil", strange as it may seem.

Wry memoir of the way we were in 1975

John Updike is writing as well as ever about suburban America, but **Peter Mandler** thinks his characters have failed to move on

John Updike's novels figure in my memories of the Ford Administration. To my critical adolescent eyes, those yellowing paperbacks, nestling alongside John Cheever and Philip Roth on my parents' bookshelves, stood for all the fatuities of the 1950s. They seem to me to be overwrought and too-finely-observed studies of neuroses my generation had overcome: neuroses about sex, about cars, about the quality of their furniture, even neuroses about neurosis. How could anyone under 30 — in 1975 — bear to read about those frantically introspective suburbanites, embarrassed about their pendulous genitals and their clapped-out Chevys and their clapped-out marriages?

Updike's *Memories* are drawn from the life of another of his unheroic 1950s professionals, Alfred Clayton, a small-town New England academic, entering middle age in the mid-1970s. Both his marriage and his life's work on the equally unheroic mid-19th century President James Buchanan are in fragments. The book is a mosaic of these shards, marital and historical.

As Clayton's present begins to shiver into incoherence, he retreats deeper and deeper into Buchanan's past, and his stretches of pastiche 19th-century prose extend gradually to dominate the novel. At first Buchanan only appears as a rather obvious analogue for Gerald Ford, one of those "unconvincing Presidents", with physical similarities, as well: "a big fellow" with "a stiffish courtliness . . . a certain vaporous largeness."

Over time, however, Buchanan comes to be written more and more in Clayton's own image. Clayton is suspended between "the Perfect Wife" (his mistress, nominally married to a deconstructionist in the English department) and "the Queen of Disorder" (his real wife); Buchanan, a temporising Pennsylvanian, between the abolitionist North and the slaveholding South. Both are plagued by a watery-eyed paternalism in which neither really believes, a device, really, only to keep other people at bay.

Though he is ostensibly writing in Buchanan's defence, the cascade of depreciatory adjectives Clayton pours over him in the name of versimilitude tells a devastating tale: his manner uncertain, his manliness strained and unspontaneous, his soul spiritually lamed, plagued by melancholy and self-distrust, his memories slippery, his discriminations fussy and cagey, his story at best "a lifetime of tact, misconstrued".

Faced with his own indictments, Clayton begins to turn against history. His own fussy and cagey discriminations lose their conviction, his dates falter, he doubts or censors his more-or-less conscious parallels between Buchanan and himself. "I *hate* history! Nothing is simple, nothing is consecutive, the record is corrupt," he keens, knowing secretly from where the corruption enters. The ground narrows; the central figures' isolation grows; not only the extremes, but all the other intermediate positions are calumniated. He ends up wishing history away entirely: "The past is as illusory as the future, and we exist in the present numbly."

In all this, the fashion of 1990 — the point from about which Clayton narrates and Updike writes — are much in evidence. Clayton falls back on slightly gauche recourse to the uncertainty principle and the laws of thermodynamics to excuse his despair. There's rather too much deconstruction for 1975. But the bluntest of our favoured fictional implements — the plundering of history, the postmodern blurring of fact and fancy — are wielded with integrity and flair.

The connection, hinted at in the title, between public and private behaviour, between national and family scandal, is never summoned up pointlessly. It allows Updike to play on one of his favourite themes, the decay of the public in modern life, and to compare Buchanan's brave if unsuccessful attempt to reconcile the public and private to Clayton's sad cocooning of himself from the outside world. Hope and faith yield to shame and guilt. The corruptions of private life today are so many and petty that they virtually define the modern portions of this book, but the corruptions of public life are tired and remote; Nixon hardly merits a mention, and that, too, is a calculated silence. "Lying is a kind of vote," says Clayton, on the skids, "it's democracy in action." Or the only democracy he knows.

Best of all is Clayton's assault on the partitions between history and fiction, which he launches as an attempt to write better history, but which deteriorates into a desperate fling at postmodernism. In more opportunistic hands such games might be merely trendy, half baked, attention-grabbing. Here the device serves a healthy purpose, the vindication of fiction as truth-telling. Clayton's undisciplined attempts to re-animate Buchanan reveal bit by bit his own self-exculpatory project: so that in the end what we get is Updike's triumphant animation of Clayton.

And yet . . . my adolescent doubts aren't entirely extinguished. All these beautiful words, all this philosophical correctness: why waste them on animating still more Alfred Claytons? He may have moved on from the 1950s to the 1970s, even (at the point of narration) to the 1990s, but as he himself admits, he is none the wiser. It is as if Kingsley Amis were still writing sequels to *Lucky Jim*. You want to shout at Alfred Clayton: Why can't you talk to these women? Why do their bodies scare you so much? Who cares about your car? If you don't like the cat fur, why don't you sweep it up? Go see a shrink! Grow up, Alf! Or, maybe . . . lighten up, John!

Peter Mandler taught history at Harvard and Princeton before becoming a senior lecturer at London Guildhall University.

MEMORIES OF THE FORD ADMINISTRATION
By John Updike
Hamish Hamilton, £15.99



John Updike: integrity, but none the wiser



Have they offered him hemlock yet? Roger Scruton: philosopher, aesthetician, novelist, journalist, foxhunter and whipping boy

Outfoxing Socrates and Plato

Peter Stothard

THE XANTHIPPIC DIALOGUES
By Roger Scruton
Sinclair-Stevenson, £15.99

I must declare a modest interest in this pleasing "philosophical fiction". During more than a dozen years of editing work at *The Times*, no decision has brought me more trouble than the weekly columns which I commissioned in the mid-Eighties from its author, the conservative philosopher, critic and novelist Roger Scruton.

Thus when I was first given this copy of *The Xanthippic Dialogues*, with its parodic Editor's Preface and mocking pseudo-scholastic footnotes, my thoughts went immediately back to the days when each fresh Scruton manuscript — whether attacking modern universities, modern architects, Belgrano-addicts, Althusser-worshippers, CND or the church — would mean yet another round of counter-attacks upon *The Times* from the Great and the Good of England.

Barely would a piece have appeared in print before my in-tray was filled with "dump the mad doctor" letters from all sides of polite society and the political left. Moreover, for the right, still wrestling for survival in the early days of Mrs Thatcher's ascendancy, Professor Scruton was a hardly less frightening phantasm. Here was a figure — rare for those times and all times — that almost everyone could confidently revile.

Since then both Scruton and his critics have mellowed. The rabid philospher has become part of our comfortable furniture. It is hard to envisage much carpet being chewed over these pseudo-Platonic dialogues between the greatest philosophers of the ancient world and the forgotten women who happened to be their wives, mothers and slave-girls. This book is, however, no less worth reading for that. There is wit and charm here — with subversion of orthodox nostrums still strutting in the background.

Scruton seems to have an easy affinity with Socrates, the philosopher of fifth-century Athens whose unpopularity among the establishment of his time is almost as well attested as the author's own. In the first dialogue, Xanthippe's *Republic*, the bibulous master is easily defeated by his wife in a discussion of his most famous views. In the second, Perictione's *Parmenides*, an effeminate, pouting Plato is taken apart by his mother. The final dialogue is an all-female *Symposium* at which tarts and spouses do at least as much philosophising as (and certainly more drinking than) their better-known male counterparts did in Plato's own discussion of love.

For centuries it has been a standard task of philosophy students to consider which of the views attributed to Socrates were genuinely held by him and which were made up by Plato for literary and political effect. To many scholars it is a matter of great moment that the real Socrates, the humble seeker after truth who chose to die rather than dishonour his state, should not be tainted by Plato's more pervasive picture of a character whose contempt for democracy and creation of the "philosopher king" laid the foundations for censorship and tyranny over the next 2,000 years.

Scruton has not much time for this debate: both the guru, Socrates, and the dialogue-maker, Plato, he maintains, are shifty charlatans who plagiarise their women and whose feet rarely touch the ground except to walk to a free lunch. Socrates, it is revealed in Xanthippe's *Republic*, invents the notion of rule by philosopher kings because that is the one system in which the incompetent philosopher, Plato, could never have a successful political career. Plato is no better; he is "a little creep with a mimsy voice" who lounges around at home, worries about his self-esteem and assails his mother for her second marriage, her minatory common sense and her habit of calling him "darling".

Socrates attempts to persuade Xanthippe that it was Plato who conceived of children being brought up without parents in philosophical kibbutzim. His wife elegantly tricks him into admitting that the seed of that totalitarian idea is his own. As the publisher's blurb puts it: "This is a book that no feminist can afford to ignore."

Scruton is a serious writer whose fiction, like his philosophy and journalism, has not always been accorded the seriousness it deserves. He is also a very funny writer. Those whose first act upon receiving a book is to check the index should enjoy his final pages: Rape, oleaginous crop, much cultivated by the Red Army, 207; Rationality, distinct from rationalism, especially that of the Red Army, 32-3; Rawls, John, American philosopher, said to be partial to the xylophone, 139; Reason, ability to survive delirium tremens, see rationality.

A decade ago, I remember our then columnist saying that, once the main battles of the West were over, we would all be able to return to incompetent government, fine imaginative writing and other traditional pursuits of the educated classes. Today his predictions — for himself and for the rest of us — seem to have been amply fulfilled.

Peter Stothard became Editor of The Times *last September.*

In the shadow of Securitate

Kate Bassett

LAST FOOTSTEPS
By Bel Mooney
Viking, £14.99

It is like that trick the brain plays: lobbing you up to look down at yourself from a high far-off corner of the room. There is a detached distance about this story of Ana Popescu — Romanian single parent, prisoner, and finally refugee. The distance remains, even when the narrative cuts directly into Ana's viewpoint of bread queues and the black market, her young son Ion's political indoctrination, her decision to get him out to the West without her and, finally, her desperate international search for him after her imprisonment.

Aloofness is, of course, a national characteristic, according to Bel Mooney's account of life under — and even after — Ceausescu. Not only have years of Securitate spying and omnipresent informers almost obliterated trust and blown apart the possibilities of intimacy between strangers, such as Ana and her quietly enamoured employer, the British diplomat Michael Edwards. Beyond that, state propaganda and the suppression of dissent have produced a split self: outer acquiescence versus inner political rage.

But there is a more problematic separateness within the writing: the distance between author and character. Mooney analyses Ana from a great height, her unusual use of the present tense incidentally making her resemble those damnably all-knowing voice-overs by Open University shrinks in social studies programmes from the 1970s: "It isn't that Ana constantly re-examines her own motives . . ."

Ana's rhetorical, writerly inner monologues simply do not ring true, and her philosophising sounds suspiciously close an an external overview dropped into a character's mouth. Ana's own assertion that westerners cannot comprehend the east European experience and psyche reflects back on Mooney herself. She endows Ana with an English degree, making the intellectual ruminations more feasible; but she has not yet solved the difficulties of integrating authorial comment sensitively and subtly.

Nonetheless the novel is charged with emotionally potent archetypes and contemporary political pertinency: maternal love and lost children, the human rights abuses of corrupt rule, the overthrow of Ceausescu and the flood of refugees to the West. In spite of shortcomings, *Lost Footsteps* can be an engrossing, touching, sometimes upsetting book. Mooney stalwartly sidesteps the romance between Ana and Michael Edwards and only hovers dubiously around a happy ending.

Mooney, indeed, fully exploits the epic sweep of the Novel. Charting Ana's life from the rigours of the old regime to post-Cold War uncertainties, she also interweaves Ana's adulthood with her childhood, her dreams with reality, and pans out geographically as Ana zigzags across Europe from Bucharest to Paris. It is only to be regretted that this is not united with the novel's inverse capacity for the vividness of extreme close-up. Ana and Ion remain unindividualised, impersonal. Mooney stands just too far off.

Tunnel vision tales

Christina Koning

THE MERMAIDS IN THE BASEMENT
Stories
By Marina Warner
Chatto & Windus, £9.99

GREETINGS FROM EARTH
New and Collected Stories
By Scott Bradfield
Picador, £14.99

THE NEW PENGUIN BOOK OF WELSH SHORT STORIES
Edited by Alun Richards
Viking, £15.99

Collections of short stories ought, at the very least, to provide diversity; a sense that varying perspectives are being offered on a complex and fully realised world. In recent years, however, an increasing number of writers working in this medium seem to have abandoned narrative complexity and plurality of voice in favour of the presentation of deliberately limited and frequently marginal points of view. The preferred form for this kind of fiction is the dramatic monologue: a first-person, close-up account by a narrator who, if not actually deranged, is generally found to be unreliable.

First-person narratives work by exclusion, giving us the view from the inside looking out at the expense of all others. This solipsism can be compelling; too often, however, narrowness of focus can seem like tunnel vision. The first story in Marina Warner's new collection, "Be My Baby", is a case in point. Its opening paragraphs establish the scenario, in which an unnamed narrator is about to stand trial for stealing a baby.

The account unfolds with the dreary inevitability of all such case-histories. We learn that the narrator is a nurse, working in an obstetrics ward, whose own children have been taken away from her by the social services because she has neglected them. Far from giving her any sympathy with other women in similarly difficult circumstances, this only makes her more contemptuous of them; indeed, her theft of the baby seems no more than an act of revenge against its feckless natural mother. There is nothing wrong with presenting a character whose actions and motives are flawed; what seems missing from this account is any kind of deeper insight.

A more subtle exploration of the nature of motherhood is offered by another story in the collection; "Salvage", which employs the author's favourite device of reworking myth and archetype in contemporary form. In this work, the allusion is to the Biblical story of Moses, which the author transfers to modern Vietnam. Kate, a naive but well-intentioned Englishwoman accompanying her boyfriend on a visit to the country, encounters a Vietnamese bar-girl, Solange, who sees her as a means of saving her baby daughter from a life of prostitution. Here, the use of the third person narrative allows the reader to enjoy the ironies of the story without losing sympathy for its protagonist. It appears that Warner is at her best when she is dealing with the nuances of human behaviour, rather than when she is trying to portray its extremes.

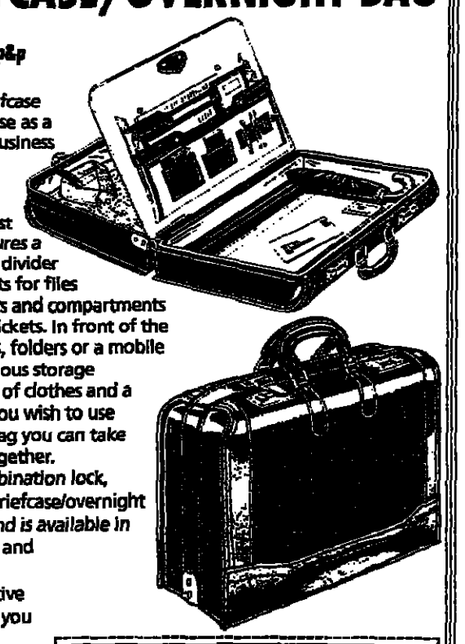
A few pages into the first of Scott Bradfield's collected short stories, "The Dream of the Wolf", it becomes clear that extreme behaviour is the only kind which really interests the author. In this — fairly typical — work, a man dreams of becoming a wolf and is gradually taken over by his nocturnal familiar. In "The Darling", a young woman begins her career as a mass-murderer by shooting her father, as well as a succession of lovers, including one who is also a mass-murderer. She is eventually cured of her psychopathic proclivities by her psychiatrist, who marries her. This is California, after all.

Bradfield's preoccupation with the bizarre fringes of American culture becomes tedious after a while, and one longs for something real to offset the weirdness. One or two of his stories do, in fact, offer a glimpse of a different mode. "Closer to You", which is described from the point of view of an autistic child, is one of these. In this instance the severe restrictions imposed on the narrative by the child's inarticulacy seem appropriate to the aims of the story, which is about defining the world through language.

This theme, always of concern to writers, has a particular resonance when the writing under consideration is the product of a bilingual culture. In his introductory essay, Alun Richards makes an interesting distinction between stories written in English by Welsh writers, those written in Welsh and translated into English and stories written in English but with a distinctive — and sometimes exaggerated — "Welsh" accent. Examples of all three types are included here. Raymond Williams's austere, ironic little tale "A Fine Room To Be Ill In" represents one end of the scale; Rhys Davies's florid, Lawrentian story "Blodwen" another. This is an enjoyably diverse collection, which includes stories by Dylan Thomas, Caradoc Evans and Alun Lewis as well as those by post-war writers such as Harri Pritchard Jones and younger ones such as Clare Morgan and Catherine Merriman.

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Employer owes no duty of care

Petch v Commissioners of Customs and Excise

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Beldam and Lord Justice Roch

[Judgment February 19]

An employer answering queries from pension scheme trustees about a former employee's work record owed no duty of care to the employee.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the defendants, the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, from an order of Sir William Mars-Jones, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division, to enter judgment for the plaintiff, Mr Raymond John Petch, of Abbey Lane, Saffron Walden, in respect of part of his claim for damages for negligence against the defendants. The court also dismissed cross-appeals by the plaintiff on four issues decided against him in the action.

Miss Genevra Caws, QC and Miss Sara Williams for the defendants: the plaintiff in person.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the plaintiff joined the Civil Service as a clerical officer in 1961. In 1966 he was promoted assistant principal and joined the Customs and Excise. He was confirmed in the substantive grade of principal in 1970. In 1973 he received accelerated promotion to the rank of assistant secretary.

Sadly, in 1974 he had a mental breakdown. He took extended leave and his effective return to work was in January 1975. It was not successful and he was transferred in his rank of assistant secretary from the Customs and Excise to the Department of Health and Social Security. He was ill again from the end of 1983 and was finally retired from the Civil Service on medical grounds in January 1986.

Before his retirement he made a claim, which he had since sedulously pursued so far as legal procedures permitted, for injury benefit under the Civil Service pension scheme, which was administered by the Treasury.

The essence of his claim was that his mental breakdown was occasioned by his work conditions and pressure of work and his later difficulties stemmed from the original breakdown.

At the first stage of the trial of the action, the judge said that he was satified on a balance of probabilities that the plaintiff had proved that the breakdown was substantially a result of the plaintiff's work situation.

His Lordship was content to accept that finding of the judge for the purpose of disposing of the appeal, but he had to make it clear that the court had not found it necessary to hear Miss Caws on the passages in the defendants' notice of appeal which appeared to challenge it.

The issue in the appeal was whether the defendants were liable to the plaintiff in negligence in respect of certain written answers given to the Treasury when the Treasury was considering the plaintiff's claim for injury benefit. The plaintiff had succeeded on that issue before the judge.

The answers came about because at various stages the Treasury wrote to the DHSS seeking certain information in relation to the plaintiff.

The Treasury sent copies of those letters to the Customs and Excise, thereby seeking the views of that department on the same questions; hence the letters in respect of which it was asserted by the plaintiff that the defendants were negligent. The questions that had to be decided were:

(a) Did the defendants owe the plaintiff a duty of care in formulating the answers to the Treasury questions about the plaintiff's work record? (b) If there was such a duty, was there any breach of the duty when any of the letters was written? (c) Since damage was an essential ingredient of the tort of negligence, was there any possibility that the plaintiff had suffered any damaged from the writing of the letters?

So far as (a) was concerned, there had been a development in the law since the judge's judgment, since in *Spring v Guardian Assurance plc* (*The Times* December 22, 1992) another division of the Court of Appeal had held that an employer who provided a reference in relation to a former employee to a third party, who was a potential future employer of the ex-employee, owed no duty of care to the ex-employee in the preparation of the reference.

That decision was binding on *their Lordships. It applied, as* representing the law of England, a decision of the New Zealand Court of Appeal. The basis of the reasoning was that the reference for the former employee was given on an occasion of qualified privilege. Words written on such an occasion were protected by qualified privilege and were actionable only if malicious.

That established rule of the law of defamation was not to be bypassed by importing the law of negligence into that class of case. Remedies, if needed, were already available under other heads of tort.

His Lordship could see no distinction in principle between giving a reference in relation to an ex-employee to an employer from whom the ex-employee was seeking a job, and giving answers to queries about the ex-employee's work record put to the employer by pension scheme trustees from whom the ex-employee was seeking a financial benefit. Therefore there was no duty of care owed by the defendants to the plaintiff.

As to (b) his Lordship had considered all the letters and had found no breach of any duty, if there were one.

As to (c) there was no basis on which the plaintiff could validly claim to have suffered any damage as a result of any of the letters.

For those reasons his Lordship would allow the appeal and set aside the award of the judge of damages to be assessed.

Lord Justice Beldam agreed.

LORD JUSTICE ROCH, concurring in the result, said that he did not decide the appeal on the ground that the defendants owed the plaintiff no duty in the circumstances to provide factually correct information to the Treasury.

His Lordship would wish to leave open the question whether an employer or former employer owed an employee or former employee a duty to take care in providing factual information at the request of a third party that the information provided was correct where the employer or former employer knew that the third party would use such information to determine the employee's or former employee's entitlement to financial payments from the third party.

On the face of it there were points of distinction between the *Spring* case and the case his *Lordship had postulated.*

Solicitor: Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Single joint tenant protected

Hounslow London Borough Council v Pilling

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice Waite

[Judgment February 22]

A letter written to a local authority landlord by one of two joint tenants seeking unilaterally to determine immediately a secure tenancy of residential premises did not entitle the landlord to a possession order against the other joint tenant.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the defendant, Mr Roland Pilling, from the order of Judge Marder, QC, in Staines County Court in July 1992 granting possession of 107 Belvedere House, Highfield, Feltham, to the London Borough of *Hounslow.*

Mr Jan Luba for the defendant; Mr Maurice Cottle for the council.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the case raised questions both as to the consequences at common law of an attempt by a local authority landlord and one of two joint tenants to determine a periodic tenancy without the consent of the other, and as to the effect of section 5(1) of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977.

By an agreement in writing on a standard printed form the council granted a joint weekly tenancy of residential premises to the defendant *and Theresa Doubtfire. That* tenancy commenced on Monday, April 22, 1991, and was a secure tenancy for the purposes of Part IV of the Housing Act 1985.

The agreement defined the defendant and Miss Doubtfire together as "the tenant" and provided that "the rights and liabilities of the tenant apply both jointly and individually". By clause 14 the tenant undertook "to give the council four weeks' written notice, or such lesser period as the council may accept, when the tenant wishes to end the tenancy and give possession of the premises".

After making allegations of *domestic violence* Miss Doubtfire left the premises and on Friday, December 6, 1991, wrote to the council: "I wish to terminate my tenancy held on the above-mentioned property with immediate effect".

Thereupon the council informed the defendant that he was no longer a council tenant and should find somewhere else to live. He remained living in the property and possession proceedings were commenced against him.

Rejecting the council's claim, relying on the terms of the agreement and the events that occurred, that the tenancy had been surrendered, the case was to be approached on the basis of the council's assertion that Miss Doubtfire's letter of December 6 was a valid notice to quit that took effect to determine the tenancy on Monday, December 9.

As to that, it was clear that *without clause 14 the letter would* have been an invalid notice on the ground that the earliest date on which a notice given on Friday, December 6 could determine a weekly tenancy from Monday to Monday would have been Monday, December 16.

But the council said that all that was changed by a combination of clause 14 and the House of Lords *decision in Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council v Monk* ([1992] AC 478) that a contractual periodic tenancy held by two or more joint tenants continued only so long as they all agreed in its continuation.

Lord Bridge of Harwich giving *judgment* in that case held (at p483) that such a tenancy could be determined by an "appropriate notice to quit" given by any one of the joint tenants.

Thus it appeared, and the council accepted, that a joint tenant could not unilaterally determine a tenancy by giving an inappropriate notice: for *example one that* did not give the period of notice required at common law or by the terms of the tenancy.

What then of clause 14? Did that condition read in the light of *Monk* entitle Miss Doubtfire alone to determine the joint tenancy by giving the council the three days notice, being a period accepted by the council. It did not.

Clause 14 permitted notice to be given for an immediate determination and thus its effect was to determine the tenancy in the middle of a period.

In other words the December 6 letter was not a notice to quit in the true sense. It was a notice operating a break-clause in the tenancy agreement.

The authorities showed that that was something which could not be done by one joint tenant unilaterally. That that was the case and that *Monk* should be distinguished on that ground clearly appeared from Lord Bridge's speech at p490G.

Further, the defendant was also entitled to rely on section 5(1) of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977 whereby "no notice by a landlord or a tenant to quit any premises . . . shall be valid unless . . . it is given *not* less than four weeks before the date on which it is to take effect".

Judge Marder had concluded that issue in the council's favour because of the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Elsden v Pick* ([1980] 1 WLR 898), a case under what was now section 25(1) of the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986.

Despite comparable wording in section 25(1) and section 5(1) of the 1977 Act, there was a critical difference between the two cases. In *Elsden v Pick* the landlord's agreement to waiver was made with a sole tenant.

Here the council was asking that *the section 5(1) protection could* be avoided by an agreement made by one of two joint tenants. One joint tenant could not be entitled to deprive the other of that protection. The defendant's second point should also be decided in his favour.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice Waite agreed.

Solicitors: Owen White, Feltham; Mr Michael John Smith, Hounslow.

When defendant can rely on own breach

Thornton v Abbey National plc

Before Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Beldam

[Judgment February 10]

Where a claim for breach of contract turned on the construction of a particular clause, the defendant was not debarred from relying on a construction which would allow him to derive an advantage from his own breach if no disadvantage was suffered by the plaintiff. The presumption that no man could take advantage of his own wrong did not apply in those circumstances.

The Court of Appeal so stated allowing an appeal by the defendants, Abbey National plc, from a decision of Mr Recorder J. B. Deby, QC, who, sitting at Scarborough County Court on April 30, 1992, had given judgment in favour of the plaintiff, John Thornton, for damages for breach of contract.

The plaintiff, a chartered surveyor, had a consultancy agreement with his former partner in an estate agency which had been taken over by the defendants. Clause 5.3 stated: "the employer shall provide the consultant with a replacement motor car of equivalent value, size and style at intervals of no more than 30 months and in reckoning any such period the *time prior to the commencement* of this consultancy agreement shall be taken into account".

By the time the defendants had acquired the business, replacement of the plaintiff's car had been overdue. It had been due for replacement on May 1, 1988 but the defendants had not replaced it until August 22, 1988. In September 1990 the plaintiff gave three months notice of his intention to retire on December 31, 1990.

After receiving that notice the defendants wrote to the plaintiff accepting that there was a breach of the requirement to provide a car within the 30-month interval from November 1, 1985 but contended that it was not obliged to replace the existing car until 30 months from August 22, 1988 and that the next replacement would not be due until February 22, 1991. The plaintiff sued.

Miss Sue Carr for the defendants; Mr Raphael Cohen for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said that the defendants argued that the words "at intervals of no more than 30 months" did not mean that the obligation was to provide the motor car on specific dates. The intervals referred to the periods of time between the provision of one car and its replacement by the next.

The plaintiff argued that the time between the replacement of cars was an important feature of the agreement. Where there was no breach there could be no question of provision on particular dates but where there had been a breach the defendants could not be allowed to set it up as a reason for extending the period allowed for the provision of a replacement car.

It was an example of the principle that a party to a contract could not take advantage of his own breach: *see Alghussein Establishment v Eton College* ([1988] 1 WLR 587).

Apart from the suggestion that clause 5.3 ought to be interpreted as not to enable the defendants to derive advantage from their own breach of contract, his Lordship *considered that the defendants'* interpretation of the clause was correct.

His Lordship did not think that clause 5.3 so interpreted was incompatible with the presumption that it could not have been the intention of the parties that either should be entitled to rely on his own breach of contract to secure an advantage.

The presumption did not only apply in a case where a party sought to rely on his own wrong to excuse further performance under the contract. In *Alghussein* the application of the presumption was clear cut. Unless applied, it would have produced a bizarre result that the appellants could have relied on their own wilful default to compel the respondents to grant them a 99-year lease.

The clause in the present case, if construed as his Lordship suggested, *did not permit the defendants* to rely on failure to replace the first car within 30 months as modifying or releasing them from the requirement to replace that car within 30 months.

Moreover, apart from the presumption, the construction of the clause would in any reasonably contemplated circumstances produce no disadvantage to the plaintiff.

In reality, it was the plaintiff who sought to rely on the presumption for an interpretation of the clause which would create a breach of contract by the defendant on which he wished to rely. His Lordship could see no basis for the application of the presumption to clause 5.3 of the agreement.

Lord Justice Neill delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Mr A. P. Squires, Milton Keynes: Longstaff & Co, Scarborough.

Inconsistent oral and written decisions

Gutzmore v J. Wardly (Holdings) Ltd

Before Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Peter Gibson

[Judgment February 22]

The decision of an industrial tribunal which orally upheld a complaint of racial discrimination only to reject the complaint in writing was so flawed that the whole case should be re-heard by a differently constituted tribunal.

The employer having asked the industrial tribunal to provide written *reasons for the finding of racial* discrimination it was unfair that the Employment Appeal Tribunal should have upheld the industrial tribunal's oral decision.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Walter Gutzmore and a cross-appeal by his former employer J. Wardly (Holdings) Ltd from an order of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Wood, Mr A. D. Scott and Mr G. H. Wright) dismissing Mr Gutzmore's appeal against an industrial tribunal finding that his dismissal was fair.

Mr Richard Bloomfield for the employee; Mr Richard Wilson for the employer.

MR JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said Mr Gutzmore was a carpenter-joiner who had worked for the employer from 1986 to his dismissal in 1990. Out of 35 staff, he was the only black employee. During his employment he had made two complaints of racial discrimination, one of which had been upheld by an industrial tribunal.

Subsequently, on October 26, 1990, a co-worker had alleged that Mr Gutzmore struck him on the head. The managing director, Mr Wardly, after consulting the works manager, Mr Michael Davies, had summarily dismissed Mr Gutzmore for gross misconduct.

Mr Gutzmore denied that he had struck his fellow employee and on January 17, 1991 had applied to an industrial tribunal alleging unfair dismissal and complaining that he had been subjected to racial discrimination in that he had been denied the opportunity of working outside the factory, had been passed over in favour of more junior white staff and subjected to unjustified supervision which was *not applied to white staff.*

The matter was heard by an industrial tribunal, whose chairman announced orally on June 6, 1991 that the employer's refusal on "quite spurious" grounds to allow Mr Gutzmore to work outside the factory was a breach of the Race Relations Act 1976 and awarded Mr Gutzmore a total of £850 in damages.

The chairman also announced that the tribunal had found no breach of the 1976 Act in the decision to dismiss, which was not unfair.

Both sides had asked the tribunal to give reasons in writing. On August 9, 1991 the written decision was sent to the parties. That document stated that the employer was not in breach of the 1976 Act and the dismissal was not unfair.

Mr Gutzmore had requested a review and also lodged notice of appeal. Because of the appeal the application for review had not been pursued.

The tribunal chairman had since indicated that the £850 award was correct, and expressed the hope that the Employment Appeal Tribunal would put the matter right.

The EAT, expressing a proper anxiety about additional costs, had dismissed Mr Gutzmore's appeal on unfair dismissal and substituted the oral for the written decision on racial discrimination.

Mr Gutzmore appealed from that decision on the primary ground that the issue of racial discrimination was irrevocably linked with the issue of the fairness of his dismissal. The employers cross-appealed.

The first question was whether the EAT were correct in not *remitting the issue to a differently* constituted industrial tribunal. The EAT had found support for their action in *Lamont v Fry's Metals Ltd* ([1985] ICR 566).

In that case the Court of Appeal substituted the original oral decision for a subsequent written decision. In appropriate circumstances the EAT had a similar power. In the present case, the written decision on racial discrimination could not stand.

But it would not be fair to the employers to restore the oral finding. It would plainly be inappropriate to send the matter back to the same tribunal.

The EAT decision was a less than satisfactory way of determining the issues in the absence of full written reasons for the oral decision.

The employer having asked for written reasons, the EAT could not properly dispense with the requirement that they be provided and lodged. The EAT should have remitted the racial discrimination issue to another industrial tribunal for rehearing.

In his Lordship's view the unfair dismissal issue should have been similarly remitted, the EAT having accepted that the two issues were irrevocably mixed.

Lord Justice Simon Brown agreed.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOME said the parties had been put to considerable expense as a result of the unfortunate error of the industrial tribunal chairman.

Although the court had no power in the instant case to award costs from public funds his Lordship hoped that those responsible would take the view that the parties should not be out of pocket.

Solicitors: Graham Bash & Co, Clapton: Pictons, Hemel Hempstead.

Double recovery cannot be awarded

Fish v Wilcox and Another

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice Mann

[Judgment February 18]

An award of damages to a mother in respect of the birth of her handicapped child could not include an amount in respect of the mother's loss of earnings in addition to the compensation to which she was entitled for the services she was rendering in caring for the child.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the mother, Mrs Linda Fish, against part of the judgment of Mr Justice Swinton Thomas in April 1992 awarding her damages on her claim for negligence against Dr Bryan Wilcox and Gwent Health Authority. The defendants admitted liability.

Mr Ian Murphy, QC and Mr Andrew Keyser for Mrs Fish: Mr Terence Coghlan for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said that the judge awarded Mrs Fish some £234,000 damages and interest on her negligence claim in respect of her daughter who was born in 1985 with spina bifida. Mrs Fish provided the care for her daughter.

The judge had awarded her £34,000 for past care and £127,500 for her future care of her daughter but refused her claim for loss of earningg.

He said: "If a claim lies in respect of her loss of earnings, the sum recoverable is £20,000. The defendants contended, clearly rightly in my view, that such a claim, if sustained, amounts to double recovery. That is to say, she is recovering both her loss of earnings and compensation for the services which she has rendered to Cally. She cannot recover both. . ."

There was no basis for criticising the judge's approach. He would have been wrong to have added £20,000 to the amount Mrs Fish recovered. She was not entitled to make a profit out of her claim or to be compensated for doing two jobs.

Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Mann agreed.

Solicitors: Ron Morgan & Co, Abergavenny; Hempsons, Manchester.

Protection of expectations of honest men

First Energy (UK) Ltd v Hungarian International Bank Ltd

Before Lord Justice Steyn, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Evans

[Judgment February 24]

Although not a rule or principle of law, *it was the objective which was* the principal moulding force of the law of contract that the reasonable expectations of honest men were to be protected. If the *prima facie* solution to a problem ran counter to such expectations, that criterion might require a rigorous re-examination of the problem to ascertain whether the law did indeed compel demonstrable *unfairness.*

The Court of Appeal so stated on February 24 when dismissing an appeal by the Hungarian International Bank Ltd from a judgment in favour of First Energy (UK) Ltd by Judge Kershaw, sitting as a deputy High Court judge of the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on October 23, 1991.

Miss Mary Arden, QC and Mr Michael Todd for the bank; Mr Giles Wingate-Saul, QC and Mr Andrew Sander for First Energy.

LORD JUSTICE STEYN said that his general observations were of relevance to a question of ostensible authority of a senior *manager of the bank's Manchester* branch to communicate to First Energy that the bank's head office had approved financing facilities.

If the implications that the bank placed on the House of Lords' decision in *Armagas Ltd v Mundogas* ([1986] 1 AC 717) were accepted by the court then its decision would frustrate the reasonable expectations of the parties and would be based on an unreal premise as to the way in which commercial men transacted business.

The observations of Lord Keith of Kinkel in *Armagas* (at p779), central to the bank's case, provided valuable guidance but did not amount to a rule or principle of law. A decision that the senior manager did not have apparent authority to communicate head office approval would defeat the parties' expectations and would fly in the face of the way in which in practice negotiations were conducted between trading banks and trading customers seeking commercial loans.

Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Evans delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Chaffe Street, Manchester; Bermans, Manchester.

District auditor owes no statutory duty to local authority officers

West Wiltshire District Council v Garland and Others: Cond and Others, Third Parties

Before Mr Justice Morritt

[Judgment February 22]

A district auditor employed by the Audit Commission to audit the accounts of a local authority in accordance with Part 3 of the Local Government Finance Act 1982 owed a statutory duty, not to its officers, but to the authority itself since the purpose of the audit was directed primarily to the protection of the authority.

Consequently, a breach of the statutory duty would not give rise to a cause of action for damages against the auditor at the suit of the officers.

Further, it would not be fair, just or equitable to impose a duty of care on the auditors for the benefit of the officers by the common law, when Parliament in enacting the 1982 Act had not chosen to do so.

In the absence of any remedy expressly conferred on the authority by statute to secure due performance of the *statutory duty owed to it by the auditor* and since the remedy of judicial review did not provide an adequate remedy in the case of a negligently conducted audit, there was nothing to prevent a private law action in damages against the auditor at the suit of the authority.

Mr Justice Morritt so held in the Chancery Division in respect of a summons brought by district auditors, Mr L. Y. Cond, Mr P. W. Heppleston and Mr P. R. Day, pursuant to Order 16, rule 4 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, for an order that third party notices served upon them by officers of the West Wiltshire District Council, Mr D. C. R. Pugh and Mr J. R. White, should be set aside and the proceedings thereon dismissed, contending that the notices did not disclose a reasonable cause of action and should be struck out under Order 18, rule 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

His Lordship struck out those parts of *the third party notices which relied on (a)* any private cause of action at the suit of the officers against the auditors, or (b) any cause of action in negligence or for negligent misrepresentation at the suit of the council against the auditors.

Mr Charles George, QC, for the district auditors; Mrs Elizabeth Andrew for the council officers.

MR JUSTICE MORRITT said that the plaintiff was West Wiltshire District Council. It had sued, among others, Mr Pugh and Mr White, the second and third defendants, who were employed by the council in a variety of senior posts for 15 or more years.

It claimed that each of those defendants had acted in breach of contract and of fiduciary duties owed by such defendant to the council and in breach of the council's proper processes and procured payments to be made by the council without proper authority. It claimed damages and restitution accordingly. Mr Pugh and Mr White denied those allegations.

The third parties, Mr Cond, Mr Heppleston and Mr Day were in each case at the material time employees of the Audit Commission constituted pursuant to and in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1982. As such each of them was charged with the responsibility for auditing the accounts of the council for one or more of the years during which the matters of which the council complained occurred.

By their third party notices Mr Pugh and Mr White claimed contribution to or indemnity against any amount for which they might be found liable to the council. The notice claimed, *inter alia*, that the auditor, each third party, was under a duty to the council and to the officers respectively in 23 specific respects.

Each officer claimed that the auditor advised him in respect of matters relevant to the council's claim against the officer and that in reliance on such advice the officer performed his duties as servant or agent of the Audit Commission in accordance with the 1982 Act. The constitution and functions of the Audit Commission and of its servants and agents were crucial to the questions before his Lordship.

By section 11 and Schedule 3, a body was constituted as a body corporate to be known as the Audit Commission for Local Authorities in England and Wales. It was not to be regarded as acting on behalf of the Crown nor were its members, officers or servants to be regarded as Crown servants.

Section 12 required that all local authority accounts should be audited in accordance with Part 3 of the 1982 Act by an auditor appointed by the commission. Section 14 required the commission to prepare and keep under review a code of audit practice prescribing the way in which auditors were to carry out their functions.

It emphasised the need for complete independence, the highest professional standards and recognition of the public interest. The duty of the auditor was *imposed by section 15.*

For the auditors, it was contended that the third party notices failed to disclose a reasonable cause of action.

First, it was submitted that when an auditor exercised the statutory functions under Part 3 of the 1982 Act he could not be liable in damages for breach of statutory duty nor did he owe a duty of care to the local authority whose accounts he audited or to the officers of that authority.

It was accepted that if there was an allegation of bad faith, which there was not, the position might be different. That was described as the broad submission.

For the officers it was contended that the auditor owed both the council and the officer a statutory duty arising from the code of practice required by section 14 giving rise to a cause of action for damages.

In addition there was a duty of care at common law if either there was no corresponding statutory duty or no such duty enforcible by the officers. That duty was claimed to be owed to both the council and the officer and to arise under the principles of *Donoghue v Stevenson* ([1932] AC 562) and *Hedley Byrne & Co Ltd v Heller & Partners Ltd* ([1964] AC 465).

His Lordship dealt first with the issue *as to the existence or otherwise of a* statutory duty owed by the auditors and enforceable by an action for damages by either the council or the officer.

It was not in dispute that if there was such a duty owed to the council then there was arguably a right of contribution within Order 16, rule 1(1)(a) of the Rules of the Supreme Court because of section 1 of the Civil Liability (Contribution) Act 1978. If such a duty was owed to the officer then it was not disputed that the matter came within Order 16, rule 1(1)(c).

That issue depended on the proper construction of the 1982 Act and the answer to the two questions posed by Lord Bridge of Harwich in *R v Deputy Governor of Parkhurst Prison, Ex parte Hague* ([1992] 1 AC 58, 158-9). They were: (i) whether the provision in question was intended to protect the *interests of a class of which the council* or the officer was a member and (ii) whether Parliament had intended to confer on the council or the officer a cause of action for a breach of such duty.

The first question might be abbreviated by considering what was the primary object Parliament intended thereby to achieve: see *Cutler v Wandsworth Stadium* ([1949] AC 398) and *Caparo Industries plc v Dickman* ([1990] 2 AC 605, 630B).

The first question had to be answered by considering the primary legislation and not the details of the code of practice. It was manifest that the functions of the auditor went a long way beyond that of the auditor of the accounts of a limited company pursuant to the Companies Acts.

Thus the description of a district auditor as having functions of a judicial nature to perform (*R v Roberts* ([1908] 1 KB 407, 438)) remained true in the light of the requirements of sections 15(3), 19(1) and 20(1).

But it seemed clear beyond doubt that it was not the primary object of Part 3 to protect the officers. It was not the function of any audit to protect the servants or agents of the body whose accounts were being examined; rather it was the actions of those servants or agents which were to be scrutinised.

Although it was correct that the code mentioned the need for advice and consultation that did not mean that it was the purpose, primary or otherwise of Part 3 to protect the officers. It was clear that there could be no cause of action against the auditor for damages for breach of statutory duty at the suit of the officers.

Thus it was necessary to consider the same two questions with regard to the council. The auditors accepted that a statutory duty was owed to the local *government electors for the authority* in question because of the provisions of sections 17(2) and (3), 19(4), 20(2) and 22(1)(a).

They submitted that there was no indication that the purpose of Part 3 was to protect the council. Emphasis was placed on the auditor's concern for the public interest; section 15(3) and the protection of public funds for the benefit of the public; sections 19(2)(A) and 20(1).

For the officers, an analogy was drawn between the members of a company and local government electors and reliance placed on the speech of Lord Bridge in *Caparo v Dickman* (at p626).

It was contended that the legislation existed for the protection of the local authority as well as the local government elector. The analogy was by no means exact, not least because the winding up of the local authority would not involve the distribution of its property among the local electors and its property had been contributed by rate and community charge payers of whom the former at least might not be local electors.

The respects in which the analogy was false pointed to the conclusion that the primary purpose of the legislation was to protect the local authority as well as the local electors.

The object of any audit was to ensure that the money of the body in question had been properly spent and accounted for. If the interest of that body and some other class, that is its members, coincided it might be a question in the case of particular statutes whether the legislation existed for the protection of the body *or that class. But where the interests of* the body did not overlap, the audit requirement had to exist primarily for the benefit of the body even though it might also exist for the protection of the class.

Thus his Lordship did not regard the existence of a statutory duty owed to local electors as necessarily excluding a duty to the body itself: see section 12(2).

That subsection imposed on the bodies specified in it the requirement to have their accounts audited in ac*cordance with* the 1982 Act. Many would not have any connection with a class comparable to local electors so that the statutory duty which was imposed by section 15 in particular could only be owed to the body in question.

Accordingly, his Lordship held in answer to the first question that Part 3 in general and section 15 in particular was intended primarily to protect the local authority.

The second question therefore arose in the case of the council but not the officers. Had Parliament intended to confer on the local authority a cause of action in damages for breach of such duty?

Part 3 conferred a number of rights on a local elector with corresponding remedies to enable them to be enforced. But the statute did not expressly confer on the local authority any remedy direct or indirect for the enforcement of the duty of the auditor.

It was true that in appropriate circumstances and subject to the con*ditions relating to the remedy of judicial* review that was a remedy open to the local authority. But it was evident that that remedy afforded little or no protection against the consequences of the negligent conduct of a statutory audit.

His Lordship concluded that he could see nothing in any of the cases cited to him to warrant the decision for which the auditors contended.

In summary, it seemed that the duty under the statute was owed to the council or of the body whose accounts were audited. The statute conferred no express right or power on the council or other body to secure the due performance of that duty.

The ability of a council to seek judicial review and such powers as it enjoyed enabling it to determine whether to engage that auditor did not provide an adequate remedy in the case of an audit negligently conducted. The existence of some quasi-judicial functions might in the circumstances justify some modification of the duty but did not warrant the denial of any private law cause of action at all.

Accordingly the claim, in so far as it was based on breach of a statutory duty owed by the auditor to the council, was not bad in law and was not liable to be struck out on that ground.

In those circumstances the officers' alternative claim to be entitled to sue the auditor for negligence or negligent misrepresentation did arise but the contention that the council was likewise so entitled did not.

The alternative claim had to be approached on the basis that there was no decided case demonstrating that such a cause of action would lie. Thus it was for the officers to establish one.

To do so they had to demonstrate that there was between them and the auditors a relationship characterised by the law as one of proximity or neighbourhood and that the situation should be one in which the court considered it fair, just and reasonable that the law should impose a duty of a given scope upon the one party for the benefit of the other: *Caparo v Dickman* (p617-8).

In that case all the breaches of duty except one which were alleged to constitute negligence were the failure to do something but the loss claimed was purely economic in the form of loss of employment and the benefits which went with it.

In the case of the alleged negligent advice there was no allegation of specific enquiries or voluntary assumption of responsibility.

The fact was that the proximity between the officers and the auditors arose solely from the operation of the Act, but, as his Lordship had already held, the purpose of the Act was not to protect the officers. Accordingly no duty of care should be imposed on the auditors for the officers' benefit.

Solicitors: Mr A. A. Child; Bishop Longbotham & Bagnall, Trowbridge.

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England's old-style director of operations

CHRIS SMITH

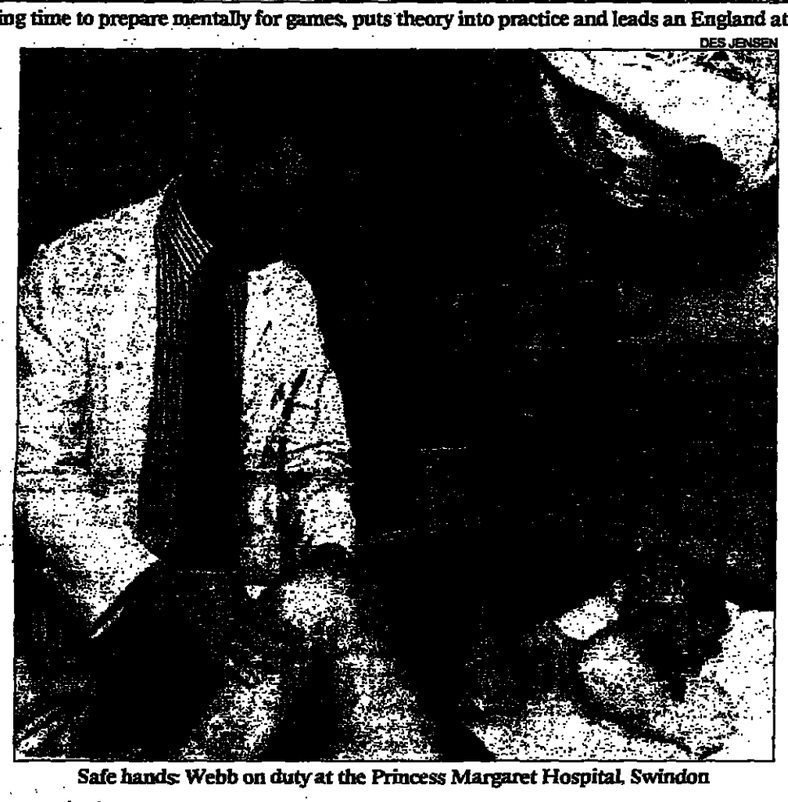


Leader in his field: Webb, who uses his commuting time to prepare mentally for games, puts theory into practice and leads an England attack against France



David Hands spends a day finding out how Jonathan Webb combines an exacting career as a surgeon with the demands of international rugby

DES JENSEN



Safe hands: Webb on duty at the Princess Margaret Hospital, Swindon

You do a medical man no favours describing him as one of a dying breed, but that is how Dudley Wood, the Rugby Football Union secretary, has referred to Jonathan Webb. Wood contends that international rugby is phasing out the genuine "amateur" who can hold down a demanding job yet still find time to prepare for his sport.

More and more of the players who this week downed tools and gathered for another five nations' championship weekend — England play Scotland at Twickenham and Wales meet Ireland in Cardiff — are structuring careers around rugby.

But not Webb, 29, the England full back and record points-scorer. Medicine runs in the family — his parents, his three brothers and their wives are doctors — and Webb's feet are planted firmly on the rungs of the Hippocratic ladder: he is a registrar in the orthopaedic department of the Princess Margaret Hospital in Swindon, a 595-bed hospital which serves over a quarter of a million people.

Such responsibility keeps sport in perspective. But it takes considerable organisation to keep work and play under control, and means precious little time with Amanda, Webb's physiotherapist wife, and their small daughters, Harriet and Sophie.

The Princess Margaret Hospital ten days ago typified his lifestyle. Webb has spent Saturday in the operating theatre and Sunday in casualty, on duty some 40 miles from his home in Bristol. At 7.20am he checks the condition of two patients in the geriatric ward.

Screens, at 8.15am, is the first medical conference of the day, when Webb introduces the x-rays on patients admitted over the weekend to the 15-strong team which will be involved in their care during the day. The conference is led by Tony Fogg, director of the orthopaedic department, a Welshman and rugby enthusiast who spent the previous Saturday watching his country lose to Scotland in Edinburgh.

"He was very kind to me when England lost in Cardiff so I'm not going to rub it in now," Webb said cheerfully. Two months earlier, Webb and Fogg discussed rugby commitments for the season, international and League weekends, as well as training nights, and adjusted a complex schedule accordingly.

"This is really stretching me as far as I want to go where combining the two is concerned," Webb said. "I've hardly seen Amanda at all and I'm certainly not seeing the children, because I'm away from the house before they wake and they're in bed by the time I get back." There can have been few more supportive rugby wives than Amanda Webb, but even she is looking wistfully towards the end of her husband's playing career.

At 9.20am, the first of 24 patients is seen in the fractures clinic, a Post Office sorter with a broken shoulder who requires a note advising light duties. After each consultation, Webb and his senior colleague, David Williamson, a consultant surgeon, note the treatment advised.

Williamson said: "There have been people whose rugby has got in the way of their careers, but Jonathan is prepared to give up holiday time to ensure he can combine the two, and he still manages to get more research done than many in his position."

"Registrar is the middle grade between consultants and senior house officers," Webb said. "I'm being trained to take over as a consultant. There is a management role involved but an important part of medicine is the skill of talking to people. As my brother-in-law put it: 'How do you tell someone he is dying of cancer then go and have your lunch?'."

Williamson and Webb depart at midday to talk to two patients awaiting operations in the afternoon, the first a partial knee replacement, the second a fractured tibia. Webb says: "This is preparing for the really creative bit, the one we all enjoy. It's like taking the bits of a jigsaw and putting them together again."

Rugby is not far away. A male patient talks of the Scotland-Wales game, and a visitor to the theatre, which is being prepared for operations, asks for an autograph.

However, the operation takes longer than envisaged: three hours stretch into four after difficulties with the alignment of the fractured tibia. A players' meeting, called at Bath's training ground at 6.30pm, goes by the board because Webb does not leave the hospital until 6.20pm. What, you wonder, would happen to his career if some careless forward trampled on Webb's fingers?

That is not positive thinking. "I often reflect on rugby at the hospital, it's a way of refreshing the mind. And now that there's a longer journey from home, I spend the commuting time trying to envisage situations in the next game and how I might deal with them." One of the perks of sporting fame is the loan for a year from TVR Engineering of a two-seater sportscar, in which Webb finally arrives at 7.05pm at Lambridge to train for Bath's next match. He leaves for home just after 9pm, after a day which began some 14 hours earlier.

This week he left home on Tuesday, stayed overnight at the hospital and joined the other members of the England squad yesterday evening. He never accepts invitations to extramural rugby occasions: even one night out would upset the delicate balance of his life. When the high ball goes up at Twickenham on Saturday, and beneath it is the slightly angular 6ft 2in frame of Webb, offer a quick prayer for his well-being. He has earned it.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Group 4 on course for early finish

MIKE Golding and his crew aboard Group 4 Securitas led the fleet past the Kerguelen Islands in the British Steel Challenge yesterday and are now within 2,400 miles of Cape Town, the third stopover port in the round-the-world yacht race.

As they sailed past the French islands, Golding's team held a 94-mile advantage over Nuclear Electric, the overall race leader, skippered by John Chittenden, and Commercial Union, who were disputing second place within five miles of each other.

Despite the strong adverse winds experienced during the past two weeks, Group 4 has set an average of more than seven knots on the first 3,700-mile stage of the voyage across the Indian Ocean from Hobart. If her crew can maintain the pace to the Cape of Good Hope, it could reach the finish as early as March 16, ten days ahead of schedule.

LEADING POSITIONS (at 15:00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Cape Town): 1, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 2,426; 2, Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden), 2,522; 3, Commercial Union (R Mermeweather), 2,527; 4, Hofbrau Lager (P Goss), 2,553; 5, British Steel II (R Tudor), 2,560; 6, Rhone-Poulenc (P Phillips), 2,564; 7, Heath Insured (A Donovan), 2,577; 8, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 2,584; 9, Interspray (P Jeffes), 2,601; 10, Pride of Teesside (I MacGillivray), 2,716 ☐ Compiled by BT

Delecour sets pace

MOTOR SPORT: François Delecour, of France, driving a Ford Escort Cosworth, was leading midway through the first day of the Portuguese Rally yesterday. In wet conditions after overnight rain, Delecour led after the fifth special stage at Serra da Lousa. He was seven seconds ahead of his Ford colleague, Massimo Biasion, with the Lancia drivers, Carlos Sainz, of Spain, and Andrea Aghini, of Italy, third and fourth. Markku Alen, given an unexpected chance to increase his record number of wins to six by stepping in for Ari Vatanen, who was injured, was seventh. Two punctures cost Colin McRae, of Scotland, two minutes, but he still managed eleventh place, 3min 36sec adrift.

Davis edges through

SNOOKER: Coolness under pressure, an attribute that has served Steve Davis so well in the past, came to his rescue again as he beat Ken Doherty 5-4 yesterday to reach the semi-finals of the Wickes British Open in Derby for the third year in succession. Confident after his victory in the European Open in Antwerp 11 days ago, Davis established a 4-0 lead with a 44 clearance to win the first frame on the black, and further runs of 41, 101 and 84. Doherty, 23, launched a spirited fightback to level at 4-4, but missed a simple red in the deciding frame and Davis completed victory with a break of 75. He now meets either John Higgins or Jimmy White tomorrow evening.

Platt withdraws

RUGBY LEAGUE: Andy Platt, the Wigan prop, who missed last night's championship match at Leeds with a knee injury, has withdrawn from the Great Britain squad to face France on Sunday. Steve Molloy, the Leeds forward, has been named as replacement. The Rugby Football League (RFL) is to recommend to the International Board meeting in June that its experiment this season of moving the defending side back ten metres from the play-the-ball should be adopted worldwide. The view of many coaches is that instead of encouraging open play the rule offers players room to drive down the middle of the pitch. The rule was introduced by the RFL partly to encourage improved fitness.

Dittmar fires Cannons

SQUASH: Cannons Club's unexpected 3-1 home win against Leekes Wizards, of Cardiff, has opened up the Pimm's Premier League championship race. The London club's success was secured by victories from Chris Dittmar, of Australia, Tony Hands, of Essex, and Peter Nicol, the young Scottish champion. Dittmar defeated Peter Marshall, the England No. 1, 9-5, 9-0, 9-6 in 49 minutes. Cannons move above the Wizards into second place, four points behind their London rivals, Lambs Club, who won 4-0 at Surbiton. Hands was yesterday beaten in the first round of the Spanish Open by Mark Allen, of Essex, who is ranked 134th in the world, 118 places below Hands.

Blain recalled for Test

CRICKET: New Zealand will go into the second Test match against Australia in Wellington today with a wicketkeeper who has not played international cricket for five years. Tony Blain, 31, returns at the Basin Reserve as a late replacement for Adam Parore, who suffered a bad cut in an accident in the nets on Tuesday. Blain's three Tests came against England in 1986, and two in India in 1988. He has also played 22 one-day internationals, scoring a total of eight first-class centuries and more than 5,000 runs. Australia won the first Test by an innings and 60 runs but Martin Crowe, the New Zealand captain, is confident his team can bounce back.

Aces king for Queen's

TENNIS: Goran Ivanisevic, who reached the Wimbledon final last year on a tide of aces, will warm up his serving arm at the Stella Artois championships at Queen's club, London, in June. Ivanisevic produced a record 206 aces during the championships before losing to Andre Agassi and totalled more than 1,000 aces during the year. The Croatian will be joined in one of the most powerful line-ups in the 15-year history of the tournament by Michael Stich, two former Stella champions, Stefan Edberg and Ivan Lendl, and the defending champion, Wayne Ferreira. Edberg was beaten yesterday in the ATP tournament in Indian Wells, California, losing 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, to Richey Reneberg.

SCHOOLS SPORT

South Africans make first tour

BY CHRIS DIGHTON

THE first all-black South African football team to make a tour of England was scheduled to arrive in London today for the start of a 12-day stay in the capital.

The players, aged bewteen 16 and 18, are from a Johannesburg football school for street children, founded 18 months ago by John Fashanu, the captain of Wimbledon, the Premier League club, whose junior team will play the visitors during their tour, as will Crystal Palace, Wimbledon's landlords at Selhurst Park.

The South Africans, who are staying at Haileybury College in Hertfordshire, will also receive coaching from Fashanu, the Palace manager, Steve Coppell, and the England assistant manager, Lawrie McMenemy.

"It's taken over a year to organise the trip for these lads, who have never set foot outside their township, let alone South Africa," Fashanu said. "I saw all these kids with nothing and felt I had to do something for them. I am fortunate enough to be in a position to help."

Llandovery College have helped to maintain the rise of Welsh rugby union by winning the Hereford Cathedral School Marches Sevens — the first big schools' sevens tournament of the season — beating last season's winners, Brecon College, in the semi-finals and then Cheltenham College in the final.

Inspired by Craig Quinnell, their captain, Llandovery recovered from 17-7 down in the final to win 19-17.

Brecon struggled through the round-robin stages, but, once in the knockout stages, the picture changed. Millfield, who had qualified by scoring 78 points and conceding none, were beaten 33-19.

In the next round, Brecon trailed Bristol Grammar School 21-7, but managed to score two late tries to force extra time, where they won 26-21. Luck deserted them in the semi-final, however, where they lost 14-12 to Llandovery.

Cheltenham enjoyed a fairly untroubled run to the final and beat Stonyhurst 40-0 in the semi-finals.

The Rosslyn Park national schools sevens will run from March 22 to 25 and has attracted its biggest entry, 340 schools. Sponsored for a fifth year by Shell, the sevens will see the first use of a new matchball developed specially for the World Sevens Cup in Edinburgh in April.

London's defence overrun

THE Hockey Association made a clean sweep of the season's matches against the universities with an 8-0 victory over London at Milton Keynes yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes).

A talented side, chosen mostly from the first division of the Pizza Express National League, overran the London defence to score four goals in each half.

All the association's first-half goals came from short corners and were the product of cleverly laid schemes. The successful marksmen were McGuire, Crutchley, McGuire and Betts. London had no answer to the continued onslaught despite the spirited efforts of Hill and Le Huray to stir the attack into activity.

The four goals after the interval were added by Cooper, who made a splendid dive near the far post, Crutchley, Betts and Cross. In all 11 short corners were earned by the association.

London forced two short corners in the last five minutes, when, for the first time in the match, Barrow was called on to save from Turner and Munro.

GOLF

Faldo completes fine-tuning as Masters build-up begins

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN MIAMI, FLORIDA

THE man selling ice cream on the practice day for the Doral Ryder Open wanted to know who the tall, athletic guy with the purposeful stride was. He did not recognise Nick Faldo, the world No. 1, whose outings in the United States are few and far between these days.

Not too many others should need to ask: "Who's that with Phil Mickelson?" when the left-hander with world-beating potential tees off with the Open champion in the first round today.

It is pregnancy — his wife, Gill, is expecting their child towards the end of the month — that brings Faldo to Miami to tackle Doral's famous Blue Monster course for the first time since 1984. He will be in Florida for the next three weeks before flying home for the birth of the baby — "I know all the tricks," he said, "and it'll definitely arrive on time" — and returning for the Masters at Augusta.

Faldo sees Doral as valuable in its own right, not just as a build-up to the all-important major without which no grand slam is possible. "They're all good now," he said, and with a prize-fund of $1.4 million — first prize $252,000 — and a field that includes would-be and could-be No. 1s like Fred Couples, Greg Norman, Davis Love III, Tom Kite and an inordinately relaxed Sandy Lyle, there is plenty of incentive for a man to produce his best.

"I like being No. 1," Faldo said. "Everybody's coming at you and you've got to believe that what you're doing will keep you ahead. You can't really be satisfied, so you find ways to keep improving and if you keep churning out the good stuff, all of a sudden you will find some great stuff."

Faldo spent four days prior to Doral working on fine tuning with David Leadbetter at Lake Nona while Lyle, who is making his first competitive appearance of the year, braved the vagaries of the Scottish weather. He spent ten days working on his game on his own at Turnberry, concentrating on keeping things simple — "Posture, lining up, keeping it smooth, that sort of thing."



Faldo: rare appearance

Lyle's wife, Jolande, is on the verge of producing their first child — he blamed a particularly wet and windy day at the Bell's Scottish Open last July for the fecundity — and he will return home to Scotland after the Honda Classic next week. He conceded his build-up to Augusta was not ideal but remarked modestly, "I know the course pretty well."

☐ The European Tour will, after all, be travelling to Italy later this month. After the cancellation of the ProServ event in Bologna because of lack of sponsorship, it was announced yesterday that the Kronenbourg Open will take place at GardaGolf, near Verona, on March 25-28 with £200,000 in prize-money.

☐ Faldo will defend his Scandinavian Masters title at the Forsgaardens club at Kungsbacka, 15 miles south of Gothenburg, from July 29 to August 1.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow fall
ITALY							
Cortina	30	100	good	good	variable	1	2/3
(Much improved at all levels. All lifts operating)							
Courmayeur	70	200	new	new	light	0	2/3
(Good snow at all levels. More runs opening after grooming)							
Sestriere	150	200	good	good	cloudy	2	2/3
(Best conditions of season so far. Grooming under way)							
Selva	20	70	good	good	cloudy	2	2/3
(Good conditions. Sella Ronda open both directions)							
AUSTRIA							
St Johann	40	100	good	spring	light	5	3/3
(Best snow on upper levels. All lifts and runs open)							
Schladming	35	145	good	good	light	0	3/3
(All lifts and runs open. Good snow throughout)							
Seefeld	60	110	good	compact	light	3	3/3
(Among the best snow so far on upper. All lifts open)							
SWITZERLAND							
Champery	40	70	new	new	light	3	3/3
(Good snow at all levels. All lifts and links open)							
Klosters	35	200	good	good	light	2	3/3
(All lifts and runs open. Good conditions)							
Gstaad	40	80	good	hard	light	3	3/3
(Most lifts operating. Best snow on higher runs)							
Verbier	35	320	good	worn	light	0	3/3
(Best snow on upper slopes. All lifts and links open)							
FRANCE							
Argentiere	45	315	new	closed	snow	0	3/3
(Best snow on Grands Montets. Eight lifts operating)							
Les Deux Alpes	30	220	good	closed	light	1	3/3
(Best snow on upper. More snow needed lower down)							
Meribel	45	220	new	new	snow	4	3/3
(Good snow at all levels. Forty-eight lifts operating. Links open)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

Rowing faces dilemma over controversial proposal for Atlanta

Redgrave criticises Olympic cuts

JULIAN HERBERT



Facing the music: Redgrave believes replacing three heavyweight events in the Olympic rowing programme would be a retrograde step

BY JOHN GOODBODY

INTERNATIONAL rowing has been split by a plan to introduce lightweight races, and drop three heavyweight events, at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Steve Redgrave, who has won gold medals for Britain at three successive Games, described the issue as "the biggest international controversy in the sport".

It also questions the place of weight categories in other Olympic activities, such as boxing, judo, weightlifting and wrestling.

When the International Rowing Federation (Fisa) begins its joint commission meeting in Manchester today, Denis Oswald, its president, may report on discussions he has had with Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Fisa and the IOC have received a letter from 40 of the 42 Olympic champions condemning Fisa's decision, by 81 to 39 votes at its congress in January, to substitute three lightweight events for three heavyweight.

The proposed lightweight categories for Atlanta have yet to be decided but the unlucky boats are likely to be the women's coxless pairs and the men's coxed fours and pairs. In the latter, Greg and Jonny Searle and their cox, Garry Herbert, won the title for Britain in Barcelona.

The letter, which was signed by Redgrave, his partner, Matthew Pinsent, the Searles and Herbert, states: "The Games are about competition between the greatest athletes in the world of sport. To preclude sportsmen and women from certain events because of their superior physical prowess is absurd.

"Our sport, like many, has representative events for restricted classes of athletes, junior under-23s and lightweights, but this is no justification for their inclusion in the Olympic Games."

The IOC is determined to keep control of the number of events on the Olympic programme and would only agree to the introduction of men's lightweight under-72.5kg, and women's under-59kg, if an equivalent number of heavyweight events were dropped.

In Atlanta, there will be a maximum of 606 rowers for the 14 boat classes.

The move to get lightweight rowing into the Games has been led by Oswald and largely supported by Latin America, Asia and Scandinavia. Fisa wants to broaden the participation in the sport, particularly among nations where people are naturally smaller than in Europe and North America.

Countries like Britain, where lightweight rowing is highly developed, are likely to continue their success in world championships, when lightweight rowing is on the programme, and at the Olympics.

Neil Thomas, the outgoing president of the Amateur Rowing Association (ARA), said that Britain voted against the proposal even though British medal chances would be enhanced by the introduction of lightweight events. He asked the Fisa congress to produce evidence that lightweights were "improving and developing".

Toby Hessian, the competitors' representative of the 1993 British men's lightweight squad, said: "Many lightweight finals are now rowed in times within a few seconds of open time and, in Barcelona, the double sculls gold medal was won by two Australian lightweights." They were the only Olympic champions who did not sign the letter to the IOC.

Annemarie Dryden, the competitors' representative of the 1993 British women's lightweight squad, stressed that developing countries will not get financial support unless there is the eventual chance of participation in the Olympic Games.

Student grant steers steel city towards golden sporting era

David Powell finds that things have never been better for Sheffield's sporting public

The logo on the front page of the *Yorkshire Post* on Tuesday screamed "Sheffield in crisis". But the locals who use sport as their barometer for whether life is up or down must have wondered "what crisis?" Sheffield sport has never had it so good.

While the football fraternity dreams of an all-Sheffield FA Cup final to celebrate the centenary of city status granted by Queen Victoria — United and Wednesday play in separate quarter-finals in the next four days — a rich seam of sporting activity lies beneath the surface. The World Student Games, staged in Sheffield 20 months ago, may have had their detractors, but the facilities left behind are moving the city towards an arguable claim of being Britain's capital of sport.

"That is our aim," Martin Morton, the principal events officer for Sheffield city council, said. Peter Markie, a sports journalist in Sheffield for 30 years, added: "We have come out of the Stone Age. The impetus came from the World Student Games."

International athletics and swimming, county cricket, professional rugby league, football, snooker and ice hockey can be seen in Sheffield, but so can less-publicised sports, such as rock climbing, skiing and underwater hockey. The list is seemingly endless.

Success runs the gamut of interest, from two Premier League football clubs to the handful who watch Sheffield Hatters, the women's basketball team on the verge of its third successive national league and cup double. Many of the facilities used in the march forward would not have been provided but for the Student Games.

The £147 million spent on providing them, and underwritten by the city's residents, will be paid back over ten years, but the £10.44 million Games' losses, the biggest deficit in any event in British sport, have been cleared.

"The facilities were not built for the World Student Games, they were built for the regeneration of Sheffield after the collapse of the steel industry and used for the Games," Peter Price, the council's leisure chairman, said. The Ponds Forge complex, which will stage the European swimming championships this year, was the jewel in the Student Games crown.

Tomorrow, Ponds Forge hosts a new initiative designed to enhance Sheffield's sporting status. Representatives from Britain's leading sports authorities, including the British Olympic Association and Sports Council, will assemble to hear a plan to invite the national volleyball and diving squads to set up permanent residence in the city.

Jobs and university courses — "from plumbing and plastering to medicine and law," according to Price — will be offered to tempt the squads into Sheffield under a joint venture between the city council and chamber of commerce.

"The idea is that they reside and train together and use our facilities so that, in a couple of Olympics time, we can be in the medals," Price said. "The chamber of commerce is willing to look within its membership to offer jobs with flexibility to allow time off for training." In a city where 20,000 council workers voted this week to take a 3.25 per cent pay cut in exchange for short-time working to prevent 1,400 redundancies, that is some offer. Hence the Yorkshire Post's "Sheffield In Crisis" logo.



Bassett: missed chance

The Government's financial support for the Manchester Olympic bid rankles with Price as Sheffield, which received no direct grant for the Student Games, wrestles with the finances of repaying its debts. The city treasurer, Malcolm Newman, paints a gloomy picture for the 1994-95 financial year.

Morton said that the big sports events which, since the Student Games, can be staged in Sheffield, are a financial boost. "For every £1 that the council spends to subsidise sports events, we estimate there will be £60 spent in the local economy in leisure related activities over the next eight years," Morton said.

Dave Bassett, the Sheffield United manager, bemoans the wasted chance to build a stadium for the joint use of United and Wednesday. Instead, Sheffield opted for Don Valley, which draws the biggest crowds in British athletics. It might have been made for the football clubs as well. It might even have been fit to have staged an all-Sheffield FA Cup final.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

Late results on Tuesday

PREMIER LEAGUE: Ipswich 0, Middlesbrough 1, Sheffield United 6, Tottenham 0. Postponed: Oldham v Liverpool

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Second division: Fulham 1, Bournemouth 1, Hartlepool 0, Wigan 0; Rotherham 0, Stockport 2. Third division: Barnet 2, Gillingham 0, Chesterfield 2, Lincoln 1.

SEMI-PROFESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL: England 2, Wales 1

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Kettering 3, Runcorn 3. Drinkwise Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Macclesfield 1, Northwich 1 (Northwich win 3-1 on agg).

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Aberdeen 1, Partick 0. First division: Hamilton 1, Ayr 3.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Feyenoord 0, Spartak Moscow 1

UEFA CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Real Madrid 3, Paris Saint Germain 1

DIADORA LEAGUE Premier division: Enfield 4, Yeading 1, Grays 2, Bognor 1; Hendon 1, Aylesbury 1; St Albans 3, Wivenhoe 0, Staines 0, Basingstoke 1, Windsor and Eton 1, Kingstonian 0. First division: Dorking 0, Boreham Wood 2, Heybridge 0, Maidenhead 1, Wembley 0, Uxbridge 0. Second division: Banstead 1, Southall 0, Hampton 1, Saffron Walden 0. Third division: Clapton 1, Camberley 4, Kingsbury 0, Aldershot Town 1

JEWSON FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Newmarket 2, Tiptree 3, Wroxham 0, Norwich United 3

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Hastings 0, Bashley 0, Waterlooville 3, Crawley 0. Southern division: Braintree 0, Erith and Belvedere 2, Buckingham 2, Salisbury 4, Dunstable 2, Burnham 0, Sittingbourne 3, Havant 2, Witney 1, Andover 0

HFS LOANS LEAGUE. Premier division: Bacon 2, Gainsborough 3

UEFA UNDER-16 CHAMPIONSHIP: Republic of Ireland 3, Finland 0

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: West Ham 1, Oxford Utd 1

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Quarter-finals: Ballymena 0, Bangor 2; Distillery 1, Ards 2 (aet). Glentoran 1, Coleraine 1 (aet, Coleraine win 5-3 on pens). Limavady 3, Ballyclare 0

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Newtown 0, Rhyl 1

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: G and W Engineering Cup. Liversedge 3, Denaby 4 (aet)

ATHLETICS

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain: International indoor meeting. 60m hurdles: I Turchin'enko (Russ) 7.68sec (world indoor record)

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana Pacers 109, San Antonio Spurs 95; New York Knicks 107, Atlanta Hawks 98; Orlando Magic 108, Minnesota Timberwolves 88; Chicago Bulls 87, New Jersey Nets 80; Milwaukee Bucks 130, Dallas Mavericks 86; Denver Nuggets 127, Los Angeles Lakers 115; Seattle SuperSonics 108, Cleveland Cavaliers 105 (OT); Houston Rockets 99, Los Angeles Clippers 93; Portland Trail Blazers 102, Phoenix Suns 97

CRICKET

KENYA: One-day match: MCC 225-5 (D Ward 66, G Toogood 52 not out); Rift Valley Sports Club 141 (Tanq Iqbal 59; R Wright 5-45). MCC won by 81 runs.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Philadelphia Flyers 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 4; Vancouver Canucks 3, Washington Capitals 3; New York Islanders 3, Detroit Red Wings 2; Quebec Nordiques 7, Winnipeg Jets 4; Los Angeles Kings 6, Calgary Flames 2; San Jose Sharks 3, Ottawa Senators 2.

MOTOR RALLYING

PORTUGUESE RALLY: Leading positions (after seven timed stages): 1, F Delecour (Fr), 1hr 02min 49sec; 2, M Biason (It), 16 seconds behind; 3, C Sainz (Sp), 26; 4, A Aghini (It), 29; 5, K Eriksson (Swe), 1 18; 6, M Alen (Fin), 1 48; British: 9, C McRae, 4 03

POLO

PALM BEACH: Audemar Piguet 26th-goal International: Final score: Pegasus 15, Houston/Paradise Lost 7. Pegasus: 1, J Hipwood (7); 2, S Araya (9); 3, B Araya (9); Back, M Gruss (1). Houston/Paradise Lost: 1, J Arellano (6); 2, W el Effendi (2); 3, J Crotto (3). Back, H Taub (3)

RUGBY LEAGUE

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE: First division: Wigan 64, Hull KR 4. Second division: Ryedale York 60, Swinton 0.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Abertillery 8, Swansea 8; Bridgend 16, Glamorgan Wanderers 8; Cross Keys 8, Newbridge 38; Newport 16, Gloucester 20; Pontypool 28, Penarth 12; Pontypridd 55, Ebbw Vale 10. Cancelled: Bridgend v Glamorgan

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL: Marches sevens: Final: Llandovery 19, Cheltenham 17

SNOOKER

DERBY: Wickes British Open: Fifth round: M Bennett (Wales) bt P Ebdon (Eng), 5-3. Quarter-final: S Davis (Eng) bt K Doherty (Rep of Ire), 5-4

SQUASH

Pimm's Premier League
First division

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Lambs	10	9	0	1	53
Cannons	11	9	2	0	49
Leeles W	10	7	1	2	49
Rackets	10	4	4	2	28
C Surbiton	11	3	8	0	21
Lingfield	10	1	7	2	18
Manchester	11	1	8	2	18

SRA Women's Superleague

	P	W	D	L	Pts
TP Courtlands	6	4	0	1	23
TP Windsor	5	3	0	2	18
R Nottingham	5	3	0	2	17
Lee on Solent	5	0	0	5	2

MADRID: Spanish Open Championship First round: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt C Wapnick (SA), 15-5, 15-11, 15-9; A Adarraga (Sp) bt O Rucks (Ger), 15-10, 15-8, 15-6; R Eyles (A) bt K Flynn (Ire), 15-11, 15-5, 15-3; J Nicolle (Eng) bt T Garner (Eng), 15-10, 15-7, 15-12; P Marshall (Eng) bt C Rowland (A), 15-6, 15-10, 15-10; M Macleon (Scot) bt A Codina (Sp), 11-15, 15-10, 15-5, 15-14; S Elopuru (Fin) bt P Johnson (Eng), 15-8, 9-15, 17-15, 15-6

TENNIS

COVENTRY: LTA Masters: Quarter-finals: M Petchey (Essex) bt C Wilkinson (Hants), 6-7, 7-6, 6-2; A Foster (Staffs) bt P Pambianco (It), 6-3, 6-3

INDIAN WELLS, California: ATP tournament: Men: First round (US unless stated): W Ferreira (SA) bt A Chesnokov (Russ) 6-1, 6-1; A Volkov (Russ) bt W Masur (Aus), 1-6, 6-2, 7-5; F Santoro (Fr) bt J Tarango (US), 6-2, 0-6, 6-3; J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt H Leconte (Fr), 1-6, 7-5, 6-2; M Rosset (Switz) bt M Woodforde (Aus), 3-6, 6-2, 6-0; B Patzleiner (Ger) bt C Costa (Sp), 4-6, 7-6, 6-2; T Muster (Austria) bt J Oncins (Bol), 6-4, 6-0; A Manoni (Arg) bt J Sanchez (Sp), 6-2, 2-6, 7-6, E Sanchez (Sp) bt G Ruseduski (Can), 6-4, 6-4; F Santoro (Fr) bt J Tarango (US), 6-2, 0-6, 6-3; J Palmer (US) bt R Furlan (It), 6-3, 6-4. Second round: J Couner (US) bt D Wheaton (US), 6-3, 7-6; R Reneberg (US) bt S Edberg (Swe), 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; M Chang (US) bt J Stark (US), 6-4, 6-4; M Woshington (US) bt J Hlasek (Switz), 6-2, 6-2; T Martin (US) bt A Boetsch (Fr), 6-4, 5-7, 7-6.

DELRAY BEACH, Florida: Virginia Slims women's tournament: First round: P Hy (Can) bt L Gildemeister (Peru), 6-0, 6-2; S Rother (Holl) bt R McQuillan (Aus), 2-6, 6-4, 6-3; M Droke (Can) bt M J Gardano (Arg), 6-3, 6-4; C Papadaki (Ger) bt L Neiland (Lat), 6-3, 6-1; L Davenport (US) bt B Reinstadler (Austria), 6-3, 6-1; J Byrne (Aus) bt R Stubbs (Aus), 6-2, 6-3; S Amrach (Fr) bt C Fauche (Switz), 6-3, 7-5; A Grossman (US) bt N Dahlman (Fin), 6-3, 6-0. Second round: S Graf (Ger) bt Y Basuki (Indo), 6-2, 6-1; A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt H Kelesi (Can), 7-6, 7-5; N Zvereva (Bel) bt M Werdel (US), 7-5, 6-3; S Reha (US) bt R Zrubakova (Slovakia), 6-3, 6-0

YACHTING

BRITISH STEEL CHALLENGE: Leading positions (miles to Cape Town): 1, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 2,535 miles; 2, Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden), 2,675; 3, Commercial Union (R Memmeather), 2,688; 4, Holbrau Lager (P Goss), 2,638; 5, British Steel II (R Tudor), 2,710; 6, Rhone-Poulenc (P Phillips), 2,718; 7, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 2,729; 8, Heath Insured (A Donovan), 2,747; 9, Intercorray (P Jeffes), 2,753; 10, Pride of Teesside (I MacGillivray), 2,845.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Notts Forest v Blackburn (7.0). Second division: Hull v Derby; Port Vale v West Bromwich (7.0)

HFS LOANS LEAGUE CUP: Marine v Gretna (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Carlsberg National League: Men: First division: London Towers v Guildford Kings

SNOOKER: Wickes DIY British Open (Derby).

TENNIS: LTA indoor satellite tournament (Coventry)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

EUPAD

(a) A mixture of chlorinated lime and boric acid, used as an antiseptic dry dressing, the initials of the Edinburgh University Pathological Department, where the mixture was invented: *BMJ*, 1915: "For convenience we have given the name Eupad to a powder consisting of equal weights of finely ground bleaching powder and powdered boric acid intimately mixed."

SKIDOO

(b) To go away, leave, or depart hurriedly. North American slang, origin uncertain, perhaps from *skedaddle*: *Bernard Malamud*: "If you skidoo now, you'll get spit." "Who's skidooing?"

JUS COGENS

(c) A principle of international law which cannot be set aside by agreement or acquiescence. So, in modern use, as laid down by the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969), "a peremptory norm of general international law", from the Latin for "compelling law": "The technical name now given to the basic principles of international law, which states are not allowed to contract out of, is 'peremptory norms of general international law', otherwise known as *jus cogens*."

QUIRLEY

(c) A (usually hand-rolled) cigarette. US and Australian slang, probably from *curl*, 1940: "A cigarette is a *lung-duster*, or a *quirley* (or *spill-quirley*). Dr R. D. Scott reports the use of *quirley* among the cowpunchers of Arizona and New Mexico."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qxe4! fxe4 2 Bxe4+ Kh8 3 Ng6+ Kh7 4 Nxf8++ Kh8 5 Ng6+ Kh7 6 Ne5+ Kh8 7 Nf7 mate.

SPORTS LETTERS

Rethink required on studs

From Dr John Turner

Sir, Rugby union football, the hooligan game played by gentlemen, regards stamping as a sending-off offence, but takes a more lenient attitude towards raking of a player trapped on the ground, a fine distinction indeed. Both practices result in differing but unpleasant injuries which are largely avoidable.

Last Saturday's Pilkington Cup game between Waterloo and Harlequins resulted, uniquely, in several players being sent off the field to change what was deemed illegal footwear. These players had already passed the referee's inspection prior to kick-off. The game itself was marred, like far too many others, by a series of injuries, many stud and boot related.

If we are not to proceed to abolition of ruck and maul or adoption of American-style body armour, then deliberate raking must be treated as severely as stamping. It is also *evident that traditional studs*, whether northern hemisphere, southern hemisphere or rugby league pattern, are about as appropriate for the current game as hobnail boots *for modern infantry.*

It is essential, and eminently feasible, to redesign studs to minimise their potential as offensive weapons without losing scrummage purchase.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TURNER,
Claddagh House,
20 Dowhills Road,
Blundellsands, Liverpool.

Welcome change

From Mr David Matthews

Sir, Surely Gerald Davies (Rugby Commentary, February 27) is being unduly pessimistic in his assessment of the effect on spectators of a possible change in dates for the five nations' rugby union championship.

As one of the "travelling horde", I can assure him that the planned alteration will not diminish the enthusiasm of the supporters who throng the *European rugby fleshpots*, only two of which have the necessary post-match atmosphere: Paris and Dublin. (Cardiff can be dismissed as it is impossible to get a ticket and Edinburgh is far too staid).

Has Davies thought of the advantages of playing these important matches later in the season? The conditions for spectator and player alike will be much improved and a three o'clock kick-off eases the problems of arriving in time from morning matches and various hostelries en route to the ground.

In answer to his question whether supporters will want international rugby on successive weekends: there was plenty of rugby in the 1991 World Cup, several matches a week in the early stages, and it resulted in capacity crowds at nearly every match.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MATTHEWS,
7 Yew Tree Road,
Beckenham,
Kent.

Penalties for pad players

From Mr Jiten Bardwaj

Sir, It takes a spin bowler years to learn his craft. Margins of error regarding flight, spin, line and length are tighter for a spinner than a seamer. It is therefore just not cricket that a batsman with a poor technique against spin can pad away many balls with impunity.

I propose that such batsmen should be hit where it hurts them most: in the scorebook. The umpire signals, say, a "non-bye" whenever there is deliberate padding. The scorers deduct a run from the offending batsman or from his team's total if he is in the red when out. The lbw law remains unchanged.

According to my calculations, England's batsmen would have registered a minus score during one of the sessions in a recent Test match in India.

Yours faithfully,
JITEN BARDWAJ,
4 Broad Green Wood,
Bayford,
Hertfordshire.

Fairer tactics

From Mr E. C. Neve

Sir, Mr Michael Woollard (Sports Letters, February 25) appeals to the shade of Douglas Jardine in revulsion at the appearance of today's England cricket captain.

Maybe Graham Gooch is not a pretty sight and certainly his team have been badly beaten. But previously he has led England to notable victories; and, unlike Jardine, he did not try to win by introducing tactics that were ruthless, dangerous and unfair.

Jardine may have been impeccable in appearance; but there are more profound ways of disgracing English cricket than going unshaven.

Yours faithfully,
E. C. NEVE,
6 Brent Road,
South Croydon,
Surrey.

Clubs must fight board threat

From Mr Ron Blastland

Sir, David Powell's article (March 1), drawing attention to yet another schism within British athletics, is wrong in its basic premiss. It is not about Peter Radford, David Bedford, Bob Greenoak and John Lister seeking more power at the British Athletic Federation AGM; it is about them resisting the attempts by centralists to take away the power from the clubs that was democratically voted on by the clubs at the time the BAF was set up.

Specifically, they are fighting a plan to introduce ten *unelected members to the* management board, to abolish two elected club representatives and to overwhelm the remaining five club votes.

The president, Arthur McAllister, was soundly beaten in his plan to place the control of athletics in the hands of four English votes. With the largess and power at their disposal, a small central group could have done as they liked. The lack of political awareness by most clubs would make it unlikely that they would wish to become *embroiled in "politics"* for another fifty years.

Fortunately, Bedford, Derek Johnson and I spotted the move and McAllister's "mandate" voting scheme was exposed and defeated. When the BAF was finally born — thanks to Bedford and Johnson — the power was directly with the clubs for the first time. Now the issue is to retain that power.

In response to the appeal of Tony Ward, the BAF public relations officer, for goodwill and reconciliation the centrists were accepted into the new BAF arrangement on the understanding that they would accept the democratic vote.

Alas, they are still pursuing their outworn policies. The clubs must vote overwhelmingly in favour of Bedford and co.

Radford and Bedford have shown by word and deed that they truly believe in the *eradiction of drugs from sport*. They should be supported for their work in that field too. British youth has never been in greater need of good examples.

The clubs also need a long overdue share of the wealth coming into athletics. Bedford has promised they will have some of it at last.

Yours faithfully,
RON BLASTLAND,
8 Mansion Drive,
Tring,
Hertfordshire.

Fitting tributes

From Mr Howard Lamb

Sir, The sad and untimely death of Bobby Moore (report, February 25) offers an opportunity to raise football sportsmanship from the depths to *which it has sunk.*

One of the clips shown in television news bulletins featured the 1970 England v Brazil World Cup game, spoken of by Bobby Charlton as Moore's finest. Three times Moore was seen to dispossess Brazilian forwards, including Pelé, as they were bearing down menacingly on England's goal.

In all instances he took the ball cleanly; the Brazilians were left without the ball but with other parts of their anatomies intact. Constrast the crude over-the-ball tackles we see these days, generally too numerous to remember.

Couldn't we have a Bobby Moore defender-of-the-season award? An important criterion would be no red or yellow cards.

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD LAMB,
75 Ridge Way,
Wargrave, Berkshire.

From Mr T. E. Rogers

Sir, To worldwide tributes to Bobby Moore for his football skills and fine character, I add personal witness to his conduct under greatly different pressure than on the football pitch: his false arrest in Bogotá as he was leaving for the World Cup games in Mexico.

When I spoke to him as we began negotiations with the Colombian authorities to release him, and over his four-day ordeal, he showed a calm self-possession, dignity and good manners that did him great credit.

It was those qualities that have led admirers from Pelé to his team-mates to call him — in the best and least snobbish sense — a gentleman.

Yours faithfully,
T. E. ROGERS
(HM Ambassador, Bogotá, 1970-3),
Chintens, Firway,
Grayshott,
Hindhead, Surrey.

From Mr Alan Curnow

Sir, It is a sad indictment of those responsible for our honours system that one of the greatest sportsmen of his generation, and the symbol of England's finest footballing moment, goes to his premature grave outranked by so many of comparatively less achievement.

Posthumous tributes ring hollow when those who pay *them did not take the opportu*nity to decorate Bobby Moore suitably when he was among us. Let them not make the same mistake again: perhaps this is the time to create a distinctive award *for sport* and so redress the inequity and iniquity of the past.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN CURNOW,
37 Cecil Road,
Norwich, Norfolk.

From Mr John Wilson

Sir, The most fitting tribute to Bobby Moore would be for a statue on one of the vacant plinths in Trafalgar Square alongside other great leaders who inspired memorable victories over foreign opposition.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WILSON,
3 Willow Avenue, SW13.

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Smith Eccles contemplates retirement following split

By Alan Lee

THE clash of two strong wills has brought about a split between trainer Mark Tompkins and jockey Steve Smith Eccles, only a fortnight before Tompkins's Newmarket yard runs several fancied hurdlers at the Cheltenham festival.

Smith Eccles, who only learned from a journalist that Tompkins had replaced him with Jamie Osborne on the Champion Hurdle candidate Staunch Friend, was yesterday philosophical about the upheaval but admitted that he will consider retiring at the end of the season.

"I really want to ride another year because I still love the lifestyle," he said. "But it depends what comes along. I have years ahead of me to consider and there are one or two career possibilities in the pipeline. I will have to weigh everything up when the time is right."

Yorkshireman Tompkins, who has steadily increased his jumping strength and now has a string of 25, had no contract with Smith Eccles but there had, for two years, been an understanding that he would ride the majority of the stable's horses.

Tompkins explained: "Steve and I had a general difference of opinion and I doubt that he will ride for me again."

The in-form Adrian Maguire has already been booked for Tompkins's Halkopous in the Champion Hurdle and may now be favourite to partner such promising hurdlers as Glaisdale, Highbrook and Virkon Venture should they take their chance at Cheltenham.

Smith Eccles, who has ridden 12 of Tompkins's 17 winners this season, was astonished to hear that his friend and near-neighbour had taken such drastic action following what he regarded as a minor disagreement over riding arrangements last Saturday.

He had not heard from the trainer since last Friday, when their phone conversation was abruptly ended, Tompkins having expressed anger over the reluctance of Smith Eccles to change his plans and ride at Haydock rather than Kempton Park.

"So far as I was concerned, Mark had given me the choice on Thursday and I had opted to ride Eden's Close for him at Kempton," said Smith Eccles. "The next day, as I was struggling to shake off a bout of flu, he told me I must go to Haydock but by that time I was locked into another ride, for Tim Thomson Jones, at Kempton."

"I knew he was upset but I thought it would blow over. We've always got along well because we are both straightforward characters who say what we think. Eventually, it was that which came between us.

"Mark's a very good trainer and my strike-rate for him has been outstanding, almost one winner every three rides, so it is sad that this has happened. But I am too long in the tooth to let something like this get me down. I have been through it all before and I am a great believer that, as one door closes, another opens."

Smith Eccles, aged 37, still has some attractive festival engagements, including Hennessy winner Sibton Abbey, currently 20-1 for the Gold Cup. He is also likely to ride Storm Dust for James Fanshawe in the Triumph Hurdle.

Beyond that, however, the horizons of jump racing's Peter Pan are broadening. He will definitely not join the training ranks but his personality will surely not go to waste. It would be no surprise to see him appear in an expert role on television when he does decide to end his 20-year riding career.



Glory days: Smith Eccles aboard his triple Champion Hurdle winner, See You Then

[illegible]

Nap: BALAAT
(3.30 Ludlow)

Next best: Lemon's Mill
(1.50 Warwick)

Dickinson has entry for Derby

THE new entry system designed to boost prize-money for the 1993 Derby was vindicated yesterday when 193 horses, including one trained in the United States by Michael Dickinson, accepted for the classic.

The total, which puts the purse on target to reach £750,000, is an increase of 78 on 12 months ago. Of the original 634 yearling entries — registered for £200 each in December 1991 — 189 accepted at the first forfeit stage.

They were joined yesterday by four three-year-olds, whose owners have paid £10,000 each at the second entry option stage. The Dickinson-trained Wolf Prince, winner of four of his five races, was among them.

The others to be added were the Dewhurst Stakes third Firm Pledge and Lindon Lime, both from the *Paul Cole stable, and the* Richard Hannon-trained Geisway.

The Illywhacker nursed back to spoil Young Hustler's run

By Alan Lee

JENNY Pitman's thoughts and plans are private property these days, but she must now be tempted to step back into the big-race spotlight after her eight-year-old chaser The Illywhacker ended Young Hustler's lucrative winning run at Worcester yesterday.

Great things were expected of The Illywhacker following his third to The Fellow in the King George VI Chase on Boxing day, but yesterday's race was his first since finishing tailed off at Ascot seven weeks ago.

He beat Young Hustler more convincingly than the half-length margin indicated in the £25,000-added Cavalier Chase and, with Mrs Pitman not even present to maintain her shunning of the media, it was left to the owners to explain that the Gold Cup, two weeks today, could yet be on the agenda.

Jeremy Hitchins, who owns *the horse with his brother,* Jonathan, said: "He had a low blood count after Ascot, and Jenny has done a good job nursing him back. He has some Cheltenham entries, including the Gold Cup, but we will have to see how he comes out of this."

Young Hustler had run five times since Christmas, and won the lot, so at first glance the defeat of the 5-4 on favourite seemed a disappointment. Not so to his trainer, Nigel Twiston-Davies, who positively beamed in saying: "He has run very well indeed, and that will put him spot on for the Sun Alliance Chase."

Narrow failures on Young Hustler and the Martin Pipe-trained hurdler Beebob left Peter Scudamore wearing a look of utter frustration, but it was quickly lifted by victory on Pharly Story, masterfully ridden by the champion to pick off John Edwards's hope for the Sun Alliance Hurdle, Monsieur Le Cure.

Scudamore now trails by 19 in the jockeys' championship, *as Richard Dunwoody drew a* blank. Dunwoody, in fact, looked the likely winner of the Bet With The Tote Novices' Chase on Star Actor until calamity struck at the second-last fence, the three leaders all coming to grief which opened the door for a surprise success for 14-1 chance Red Amber.

"Red Amber has a touch of the slows and really needs three-and-a-half miles on soft ground," said his trainer, Simon Sherwood. "But you have to jump round, that's the name of the game."

Holy Wanderer increased his chance of lining up for the Triumph Hurdle by finally breaking his duck in the Ferry Novices' Hurdle.

At Prestbury Park in December, David Arbuthnot's charge chased home the big-race favourite, Beauchamp Grace, and Robingo, with Indian Quest, fourth. But he has failed to build on that and needed yesterday's success to have a chance of running at Cheltenham.

Arbuthnot said: "Multiple *winners get in and, with a* good handicap rating on our run against those good horses, we should now make it."

[illegible]

THUNDERER
1.50 Lemon's Mill. 2.20 Double Silk. 2.50 SAFFAAH (nap). 3.20 Topsham Bay. 3.50 Qualitair Memory. 4.20 Dis Train. 4.50 Pectorus.
Brian Beel: 2.20 Double Silk.

GOING: GOOD — SIS

1.50 RANVET MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,821: 2m) (8 runners)

1 1 HIGHBROOK 7 (D,G) (N Cook) M Tompkins 5-11-7 — R Campbell 98
2 MISS PRECOCIOUS 136F (Mrs C Dowling) D Shaw 5-11-0 — T Eley (5) —
3 5/4P0P6 OUTFIELD 37 (Mrs M Grant) J Webber 7-11-0 — A Webb 80
4 0 ZANY GIRL 20 (B) (V Barclay) Mrs A Barclay 6-11-0 — J Osborne —
5 1 LEMON'S MILL 22 (D,G) (S Mercer) M Pipe 4-10-13 — P Scudamore [illegible]
6 P0 ARTHURLILY 30 (C Major) C Broad 4-10-6 — M Jones —
7 6 EXCELLED 26 (C Drewe) C Drewe 4-10-6 — G McCourt —
8 ORIENTAL SONG 79F (Mrs B Neale) K Bridgwater 4-10-6 — W Humphreys —

BETTING: 8-11 Highbrook, 5-4 Lemon's Mill, 14-1 Outfield, 20-1 Oriental Song, 25-1 Arthurlily, 33-1 others.

1992: SLAVI 4-11-6 P Scudamore (13-8 fav) M Pipe 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

HIGHBROOK beat High Mind 8l in an 18-runner novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, good). ZANY GIRL tailed-off last of 16 to Murphys Way in a National Hunt flat race at Bangor (2m, soft). LEMON'S MILL beat Indian Run 8l in a 14-runner maiden hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good). ARTHURLILY tailed-off 17th of 20 to Overlord in a National Hunt flat race at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). EXCELLED tailed-off 8th of 10 to Arsenal in a novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: LEMON'S MILL

2.20 WARWICKSHIRE HUNTER CHASE
(Amateurs: £1,360: 3m 2f) (11 runners)

1 2211-3 DOUBLE SILK 21 (G,S) (R Wilkins) R Wilkins 9-12-9 — R Treloggen (5) 82
2 FF3/41-P KILKNOCKIN 8 (D,S) (J Greenall) Miss C Saunders 11-12-6 — J Greenall (3) 70
3 /F41U-3 MOOR SCOPE 23 (F,S) (J White) J White 11-12-6 — A Farrant (5) 81
4 0/3P300- FOREST RANGER 334 (D,F,S) (Mrs S McGrath) J Porter 11-12-2 — R McGrath (7) [illegible]
5 43500-4 GOLDEN MINSTREL 14 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Embiricos 14-12-2 — Miss A Embiricos (7) 96
6 10U50P- HASTY DIVER 341 (F,G,S) (P Maine) P Maine 12-12-2 — R Arnsoa (7) 89
7 /2U/0P-3 HOPE DIAMOND 12 (S) (Dr N Imlah) C Trietline 10-12-2 — G Lewis (7) 71
8 0/12U-23 MANDRAKI SHUFFLE 17 (B,D,F,G) (E Harvey) O Sherwood 11-12-2 — A Harvey (7) 88
9 500PU0/ MOORCROFT BOY 677 (K Manley) D Nicholson 8-12-2 — T Dowick (7) —
10 43P5/ PROUD BISHOP 1437 (S) (D Sansome) C Nimmo 14-12-2 — B Pollock (7) —
11 55P-302 CELTIC REMORSE 183 (D,F) (Mrs P Lee) T Jones 11-11-11 — Mrs P Nash (7) 72

BETTING: 3-1 Double Silk, 7-2 Mandraki Shuffle, 4-1 Moorcroft Boy, 5-1 Golden Minstrel, 6-1 Forest Ranger, 8-1 Moor Scope, 12-1 Kilknockin, 16-1 others.

1992: FIDDLERS PIKE 11-11-9 Mrs R Henderson (7-1) Mrs R Henderson 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOUBLE SILK 28l 3rd of 6 to Seven Of Diamonds in a hunter chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good). Previously, beat Willie McGarr 30l in a 14-runner hunter chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to soft). KILKNOCKIN beat Crown Eyeglass 2l in a 6-runner hunter chase at Uttoxeter on penultimate start (3m 2f, good to soft). MOOR SCOPE 25l 3rd of 9 to Radical Views in a hunter chase here (2m 4f 110yd, soft). GOLDEN MINSTREL 12l 4th of 13 to Knockelly Castle in a hunter chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good). HOPE DIAMOND 20l 3rd of 7 to Fifth Amendment in a hunter chase at Windsor (2m 5f, soft). MANDRAKI SHUFFLE 25l 3rd of 6 to Tartan Trix in a hunter chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, good). CELTIC REMORSE 2l 2nd of 7 to Celtic Diamond in a handicap chase at Newton Abbot (3m 2f 110yd, soft).
Selection: DOUBLE SILK

2.50 BLACKDOWN HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,080: 2m 4f 110yd) (8 runners)

1 0246U4- DECIDED 377 (F,G,S) (Mrs C Lee) R Lee 10-12-0 — D Salter (7) —
2 011644 DERAB 19 (B,D,G,S) (Mrs E Brown) S Sherwood 7-11-11 — D Geoghegan (5) 98
3 235P64 MISTER MAJOR 6 (G) (B Keay) G Balding 5-10-10 — A Maguire 96
4 234352 SUNLEY BAY 16 (B,S) (Mrs M Barber) P Nicholls 7-10-9 — R Greene (3) 95
5 15-2P03 SAFFAAH 8 (G) (Mrs H Levy) W Muir 6-10-8 — G McCourt 94
6 105-132 MUSICAL MONARCH 15 (D,S) (S Williams) D Barons 7-10-5 — R Davis (5) 94
7 242/543 ROWLANDSONS GEMS 14 (F) (N Ribon) P Leach 8-10-1 — S Hodgson [illegible]
8 00-0460 TRANSMIT 41 (D,F,S) (Miss N Taylor) A Bailey 6-10-0 — N Mann 90

Long handicap: Transmit 9-1

BETTING: 5-2 Musical Monarch, 100-30 Derab, 9-2 Sunley Bay, 11-2 Saffaah, 8-1 Mister Major, Rowlandsons Gems, 16-1 Decided, 20-1 Transmit.

1992: EHBORNE LAD 6-10-1 M Perrett (6-1) G Enright 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

DERAB 17l 4th of 10 to Simpson in a handicap hurdle at Newbury (3m 110yd, good). MISTER MAJOR 7l 4th of 7 to Yellow Spring in a handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good). SUNLEY BAY 10l 2nd of 12 to As Du Trefle in a conditional jockeys' novice hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 6f, soft). SAFFAAH 10l 3rd of 7 to Good For A Loan in a handicap hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, firm). MUSICAL MONARCH 5l 2nd of 13 to Sellok Road in a handicap hurdle at Worcester (3m, soft). ROWLANDSONS GEMS 4¾l 3rd of 15 to Myhamet in a handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, good).
Selection: ROWLANDSONS GEMS

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Tompkins	5	14	35.7	P Scudamore	30	85	35.3
R Price	3	9	33.3	R Campbell	3	9	33.3
M Pipe	37	131	28.2	N Mann	6	33	18.2
Mrs J Pitman	17	82	20.7	D Gallagher	6	37	16.2
D Nicholson	17	93	18.3	W Marston	4	25	16.0
K Bridgwater	5	34	14.7	G McCourt	7	49	14.3

□ Millsolin, trained by Reg Akehurst, was cut to 10-1 joint-favourite, from 14-1, with Amazing Feat for the Lincoln by Ladbrokes yesterday. Mizaaya, now 12-1, from 14-1, and Loki, 20-1 from 33-1, also attracted support.

3.20 CRUDWELL CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£4,542: 3m 5f) (7 runners)

1 44UF3P TOPSHAM BAY 5 (D,F,G,S) (Sir Eric Parker) D Barons 10-11-10 — R Davis (5) 92
2 3113-U0 YIRAGAN 89 (G,S) (Exors of the late M Marsh) D Barons 11-10-3 — C Maude 92
3 UU0U4U BORACEVA 10 (CD,F,G,S) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 10-10-0 — A Maguire [illegible]
4 P3P555 ACE OF SPIES 21 (F,G,S) (Mrs A Smartt) Mrs G Jones (Ire) 12-10-0 — N Williamson 90
5 611-001 DO BE BRIEF 9 (B,G,S) (E Brown) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-0 (6ex) — B de Haan 87
6 31U121 BIT OF A CLOWN 28 (F,G,S) (J Sumner) Mrs I McKie 10-10-0 — L Harvey 84
7 1U5440 DUBIOUS JAKE 12 (F,S) (M Oldham) R Woodhouse 10-10-0 — L Wyer 84

Long handicap: Ace Of Spies 9-7, Do Be Brief 9-7, Bit Of A Clown 9-4, Dubious Jake 9-1.

BETTING: 13-8 Do Be Brief, 9-4 Bit Of A Clown, 4-1 Topsham Bay, 8-1 Yiragan, 10-1 Boraceva, 16-1 Ace Of Spies, 25-1 Dubious Jake.

1992: COMBERMERE 8-10-12 J Frost (5-2 fav) R Frost 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

TOPSHAM BAY pulled up in a handicap chase at Haydock, won by Party Politics, on Saturday (3m 4f 110yd, good). Previously, 4l 3rd of 4 to Word Be Gone Long in a handicap chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good). BORACEVA 10¾l 4th of 7 to Gold Cap in a handicap chase at Fontwell on penultimate start (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft). DO BE BRIEF beat No Grandad 1½l in a 4-runner handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good). BIT OF A CLOWN beat Knight Oil 1l in a 6-runner handicap chase at Towcester (3m 1f, soft). DUBIOUS JAKE 5l 4th of 10 to Siliaca Spy in a handicap chase at Bangor on penultimate start (3m 6f, soft).
Selection: DO BE BRIEF

3.50 EMSCOTT CLAIMING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,891: 2m) (9 runners)

1 0313/0 RAINBOW STRIPES 12 (Riston Stars & Stripes Partnership) B Rothwell 6-11-10 G Cahill (7) —
2 40F-140 DEXTEROUS LADY 78 (F) (R Shaw) C James 7-10-11 — S McNeill 93
3 1240 QUALITAIR MEMORY 30 (CD,S) (Jackett & Holdstock) J Akehurst 4-10-10 J McCarthy (5) 98
4 205435 PLEASE PLEASE ME 16 (D,BF,F) (T Mitchell) K Cunningham-Brown 5-10-6 A Maguire 97
5 0/5P136 MECADO 15 (V,S) (Maltsword Ltd) F Yardley 6-10-4 — D Gallagher 93
6 3200-P0 JUST A MEMORY 30 (B,D,F) (A Sumner) C Trietline 7-10-2 — D Salter (7) [illegible]
7 /4/P000 CHAGHATAI 38 (Mrs M Robertson) W Clay 7-10-0 — Diane Clay 80
8 04/046-0 ONE FOR IRENE 7 (D,G) (Miss S Bather) R Price 6-10-0 — Mr C Campbell (7) 88
9 0P4 EMMA VICTORIA 36 (Mrs P Catlin) R Brotherton 5-10-0 — D Meredith (3) 96

Long handicap: Chaghatai 9-7, One For Irene 9-7, Emma Victoria 9-2.

BETTING: 9-4 Mecado, 3-1 Qualitair Memory, 4-1 Dexterous Lady, 9-2 Please Please Me, 7-1 Emma Victoria, 14-1 One For Irene, 20-1 Rainbow Stripes, 25-1 others.

1992: SALLY'S DOVE 7-10-6 M Jones (4-1 fav) R Price 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

DEXTEROUS LADY 39l 10th of 11 to Nickdup in a novice handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 3f, soft). Previously, 11l 4th of 10 to Highland Spirit in a novice handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good). QUALITAIR MEMORY's best form was when 15l 2nd of 14 to Flying Speed in a claiming hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, heavy). MECADO's best form was when beating It's Not My Fault in a 14-runner selling handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, soft). JUST A MEMORY distant 8th of 14 to What If in a claiming hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). Last season, 10l 2nd of 15 to Cream And Green in a selling hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good). EMMA VICTORIA 14l 4th of 15 to Grove Serendipity in a novice hurdle at Wolverhampton last time out (2m, soft).
Selection: EMMA VICTORIA

4.20 EASTGATE NOVICES CHASE (£3,493: 2m) (7 runners)

1 0-65231 JAILBREAKER 16 (D,G,S) (Jack-Del-Roy) B Millman 6-11-8 — A Webb 90
2 5-0UP3P BALLY PARSON 43 (G Horsby) J Chugg 7-11-2 — W Marston (3) 52
3 21143-4 BARGE BOY 132 (D,F,G) (C House) J Old 9-11-2 — T Grantham —
4 P58U3-2 BLUE ENSIGN 3 (Mrs C Taylor) M Muggeridge 8-11-2 — R Farrant (5) 72
5 PPPP-B5 DEVON ZIPPER 10 (G Roe) G Roe 8-11-2 — R Darke (7) —
6 /3-34R2 DIS TRAIN 24 (D,G,S) (M Oberstein) S Sherwood 9-11-2 — J Osborne [illegible]
7 50-06 PROCTORS ROW 29 (J Thompson) D McCain 6-11-2 — D Walsh (5) —

BETTING: 7-4 Dis Train, 2-1 Jailbreaker, 9-2 Blue Ensign, 5-1 Barge Boy, 16-1 Bally Parson, Proctors Row, 25-1 Devon Zipper.

1992: BOUNDEN DUTY 6-11-7 M Perrett (8-15 fav) G Harwood 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

JAILBREAKER beat Wide Boy 3l in a 3-runner handicap chase at Newton Abbot last time out (2m, soft). BARGE BOY 10l 4th of 8 to Mighty Mogul in a handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m, good). BLUE ENSIGN ¾l 2nd of 8 to Pats Minstrel in a novice chase at Plumpton (2m, good). DIS TRAIN 5l 2nd of 7 to Viking Flagship in a novice chase at Wolverhampton (2m, good).
Selection: DIS TRAIN

4.50 WATERGALL MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,367: 2m 4f 110yd) (25 runners)

1 5PP ABSOLUTELY RIGHT 40 (Mrs E Gibbins) J White 5-11-7 — K Comerford (7) —
2 2 CASE HARDEN 59 (Pioneer Heat-Treatment) N Henderson 6-11-7 — R Dunwoody —
3 020 CLASSIC HUNTER 89 (D Barons) D Barons 5-11-7 — R Davis (5) —
4 6 CORN EXCHANGE 49 (Mrs C Brown) T Caldwell 5-11-7 — Pat Caldwell —
5 0 DALEHOUSE LANE 23 (G Farndon) R Woodhouse 5-11-7 — L Wyer —
6 2064 EARTH SUMMIT 24 (N Payne) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-7 — V Slattery (5) [illegible]
7 1-060 FAIR PLUME 10 (F) (K Flood) Mrs A King 7-11-7 — R Greene (3) —
8 0- FORCE EIGHT 394 (Mrs E Wilson) J Chugg 6-11-7 — W Humphreys —
9 000606/ KIWI LAKE 647 (R David) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-7 — C Maude —
10 P/PU5PP- MOYMET 391 (E Mangan) K Burke 7-11-7 — G McCourt 88
11 F24 MR FLANAGAN 26 (Miss R Stanley) C Brooks 7-11-7 — NON-RUNNER —
12 51-032 PECTORUS 15 (S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 5-11-7 — P Scudamore 95
13 0-00 RAZOO 83 (Mrs J Paulberer) J Edwards 6-11-7 — N Williamson 82
14 43 ROCK LEGEND 17 (J Sheehan) D Shaw 5-11-7 — T Eley (5) 85
15 SHINING PENNY (Mrs E Courage) M Wilkinson 6-11-7 — P Ward (7) —
16 F63-26P SINGING DETECTIVE 5F (F Mills & K Powell) P McEntee 6-11-7 — Philip McEntee (7) 75
17 5-0 SOUTHERLY GALE 80 (Lord Donoughmore) N Henderson 6-11-7 — J Kavanagh —
18 P AMARANTHINE 16 (Miss D Baker) Miss D Baker 6-11-2 — V Slattery (5) —
19 32F422 ANNA VALLEY 35 (Miss B Swire) G Balding 7-11-2 — A Maguire 98
20 FP05-PP BOLT OF GOLD 16 (Mrs J Waring) L Waring 5-11-2 — J A Harris —
21 P-44P2P POWER HAPPY 30 (Mrs S Mines) F Yardley 8-11-2 — D Gallagher 89
22 50-3 SETAI'S PALACE 21 (Mrs D Jackson) D Nicholson 6-11-2 — W Marston (3) 91
23 065 WALREDDON DOVE 16 (Mrs S Gesson) S Horn 5-11-2 — E Tierney (5) 81
24 3005 ESCADARO 14 (V) (Mrs V Ward) Mrs V Ward 4-10-12 — D Meredith (3) 88
25 35845 FIREFIGHTER 19 (V) (Mrs D Staugh) B Baugh 4-10-12 — Gary Lyons 97

BETTING: 3-1 Pectorus, 4-1 Setai's Palace, 9-2 Case Harden, 7-1 Rock Legend, Anna Valley, 12-1 Earth Summit, 16-1 Southerly Gale, 20-1 Classic Hunter, Shining Penny, 25-1 others.

1992: BISHOPS ISLAND 6-11-7 R Dunwoody (7-4 fav) D Nicholson 24 ran

FORM FOCUS

CASE HARDEN 2l 2nd of 15 to A Fortiori in a National Hunt flat race at Newbury (2m, soft). EARTH SUMMIT 15l 4th of 12 to Wadeley in a novice hurdle at Wolverhampton (3m 1f, soft). PECTORUS 6l 2nd of 10 to Thumbs Up in a novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, soft) [illegible] in a novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, good). ANNA VALLEY 2¼l 2nd of 13 to Lusty Light in a novice handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 5f, good to soft). SETAI'S PALACE 14l 3rd of 23 to Kiwi Velocity in a novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good).
[illegible]

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Worcester

Going: good to firm (good in straight)

2.00 (2m hdle) 1, HOLY WANDERER (G Upton, 9-2); 2, Thinking Twice (R Dunwoody, 13-2); 3, Admirals Secret (J McLaughlin, 7-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 7 Bresil (f), Super Sarena (bd), 12 Eurdice (f), 16 Inchcailloch (6th), Najeb, 20 Tempelhof (4th), 25 Blurred Vision, 33 Wheeler's Wonder (5th), 40 Oozlem (pu), 100 Link Copper (pu). 13 ran. NR: Laughing Gas. 4l, 12l, ½l, 8l, 2½l. D Arbuthnot at Compton. Tote: £4.70; £1.50, £2.00, £1.70. DF: £14.80. CSF: £33.49

2.30 (2m 7f ch) 1, RED AMBER (H Davies, 12-1); 2, Just A Second (J Railton, 14-1); 3, Little Lad (J Shoemark, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Star Actor (ur), 5-2 Fair Prospect (f), 10 Deming Valley (ref), 14 Just As Hopeful (ref), 16 Wicket (f), Sky Venture (f), 20 Postman's Path (f), Mr Mayfair (4th), 50 Crafty Chaplain (f), My Pilot (pu), 66 Mayfield Park (ur), Vazon Express (pu), 100 Blakeington (5th), Bromo (6th). 17 ran. NR: Switch. 6l, 7l, 12l, 6l, 2½l. S Sherwood at East Ilsley. Tote: £29.90; £3.60, £4.80, £4.70. DF: £174.80. CSF: £151.93.

3.00 (2m 2f hdle) 1, ON THE LINE (N Mann, 100-30); 2, Beebob (P Scudamore, 6-4 fav); 3, Kalzari (W Marston, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 First Division (4th), 10 Petty Bridge (5th), 20 Celtic Bob (6th). 6 ran. Sh hd, 3l, ¾l, 2½l, 25l. C Barwell at Tiverton. Tote: £4.40; £1.90, £1.50. DF: £3.20. CSF: £8.42.

3.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, THE ILLYWHACKER (M Pitman, 5-2); 2, Young Hustler (P Scudamore, 4-5 fav); 3, Fighting Words (P Hide, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 33 Joyful Noise (4th). 4 ran. ½l, 30l, dist. Mrs J Pitman at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £3.40. DF: £2.10. CSF: £4.89.

4.00 (2m 2f hdle) 1, PHARLY STORY (P Scudamore, 5-1); 2, Monsieur Le Cure (N Williamson, 8-13 fav); 3, Rimouski (Mr J Cambidge, 66-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Yeoman Warrior, 9 Bathwick Bobbie (6th), 20 King Of Zurich, 25 Propaganda, Little Sail, 33 Henley Regatta (4th), 50 Country Rambler (pu), 66 Rivage Bleu, Crank Shaft (5th), All Electric, Celtic Gamble, 150 Belling Belling, 200 Will Bonny (pu). 16 ran. 1l, 12l, 2½l, 4l, 10l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £5.80; £1.50, £1.30, £10.70. DF: £3.90. CSF: £8.15.

4.30 (2m 7f ch) 1, SIDE OF HILL (Mr N Moore, 4-1); 2, Clever Shepherd (Mr G Lewis, 11-8 fav); 3, Colonel O'Kelly (Mr N Harris, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Valassy, 14 Shatchio Boy (4th), 16 Democratic Boy (5th), 33 Impeccable Timing (pu), Kilkimartin (6th), 50 Kamsel (pu). 9 ran. NR: *Dianes Destiny. 5l, 2½l, 2l, 12l, 5l. M Pipe* at Wellington. Tote: £5.60; £2.60, £1.20, £1.10. DF: £7.80. CSF: £9.71. Tricast: £16.93.

5.00 (2m flat) 1, RICH DESIRE (L O'Hare, 20-1); 2, Slipmatic (D Leahy, 50-1); 3, Canal Street (M Hourigan, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 fav Wonderfull Polly, 6 Trecometti, 7 Tip The Dove, Ludoviciana (6th), 10 Raven's Green, 12 Baroness Blakeney, 14 Rain Shadow (pu), Yasheen, 16 Lay It Off, 20 Oats For Laughter, What Do You Think, 25 Alice Springs, 33 Amber Realm, Yellow Pansy, Uddington Belle, Manner's Air (5th), 50 Aragon Mist, Pop Festival (4th). 21 ran. NR: Flamewood. 7l, 3l, 1½l, 3l, 1½l. R Bennett at Maidenhead. Tote: £49.90; £7.40, £19.30, £3.60. CSF: £682.54. DF (1st or 2nd with any other): £11.60.

Placepot: £87.90.

Wetherby

Going: good to soft

1.50 (2m hdle) 1, Brambleberry (D Byrne, 4-1); 2, Mystic Memory (6-4 fav); 3, Pride *Of Pendle (10-1). 12 ran. 12l, 1½l. Mrs S* Smith. Tote: £3.80; £1.30, £1.10, £1.70. DF: £4.70. CSF: £10.19

2.20 (2m 5f ch) 1, Material Girl (Mr J Durkan, 10-11 fav); 2, Curaheen Boy (7-2); 3, Wild Child (9-1). 7 ran. 15l, 10l. C Egerton. Tote: £1.70; £1.30, £1.90. DF: £2.50. CSF: £4.22.

2.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Ardlussa Bay (G Tormey, 11-2); 2, Wild Bramble (9-4 fav); 3, Ima Delight (10-1). 17 ran. NR: Kerry To Clare. 8l, 1½l. J Jefferson. Tote: £6.40; £2.10, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £8.10. CSF: £17.38. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

3.20 (2m 5f ch) 1, Southern Minstrel (C Grant, 5-4 fav); 2, Lumberjack (100-30); 3, Farnworth (33-1). 6 ran. 6l, 10l. P Cheesbrough. Tote: £1.90; £1.20, £1.60. DF: £2.50. CSF: £5.11.

3.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Mr Taylor (V Smith, 5-1); 2, Dari Sound (5-2 fav); 3, Celtic Breeze (9-1). 9 ran. 7l, ¾l. H Collingridge. Tote: £7.00; £2.30, £1.40, £2.80. DF: £8.40. CSF: £17.93. Tricast: £102.63.

4.20 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Tartan Tyrant (N Doughty, 9-2); 2, Uranus Collonges (8-13 fav); 3, Zam Bee (6-1). 9 ran. 6l, 15l. G Richards. Tote: £5.80; £1.90, £1.40, £1.50. DF: £3.50. CSF: £7.89.

4.50 (3m 1f hdle) 1, Attadale (T Reed, 5-1); 2, Chief Celt (6-1); 3, Babcock Boy (7-1). I'm Toby 7-2 fav. 13 ran. ½l, 15l. L Lungo. Tote: £12.10; £2.90, £1.50, £2.60. DF: £59.60. CSF: £36.21. Tricast: £202.52.

Placepot: £4.50.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.10 (2m hdle) 1, Bardesan (J Osborne, 5-2); 2, Baladiya (8-1); 3, Peacock Feather (8-1). Chadwick's Ginger 7-4 fav. 7 ran. 8l, 2l. O Sherwood. Tote: £3.00; £2.20, £4.70. DF: £10.60. CSF: £22.83.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Mrs Jawleyford (S Mason, 4-1); 2, Northern Nation (2-1 fav); 3, Baby Ashley (9-2). 7 ran. Nk, 15l. C Smith. Tote: £5.70; £2.40, £1.50. DF: £12.70. CSF: £12.55.

3.10 (2m hdle) 1, Suluk (S Wynne, 4-6 fav); 2, Auvillar (10-1); 3, Norstock (15-8). 9 ran. NR: Chaghatai. 2½l, 2l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £1.60; £1.50, £1.70, £1.20. DF: £6.90. CSF: £9.03.

3.40 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Court Circular (Diane Clay, 5-4); 2, Seraphim (10-11 fav); 3, Fettle Up (20-1). 5 ran. 12l, 15l. W Clay. Tote: £2.50; £1.20, £1.20. DF: £1.50. CSF: £2.65.

4.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Our Survivor (R Garritty, 7-1); 2, Dancing Days (11-4); 3, Tristan's Comet (11-10 fav). 4 ran. 1l, 6l. J Parkes. Tote: £9.90. DF: £4.30. CSF: £22.26.

4.40 (3m hdle) 1, Eartham (A Maguire, 2-1 fav); 2, Johnsted (7-2); 3, Needwood Poppy (9-2). 10 ran. 7l, 15l. O Brennan. Tote: £3.40; £1.40, £1.10, £2.20. DF: £3.60. CSF: £10.80.

Placepot: £84.90.

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 3.40 Debacle.

LUDLOW

THUNDERER
2.00 Formal Invitation. 2.30 Achelous. 3.00 Major Match. 3.30 Sea Trout. 4.00 Some Obligation. 4.30 Sausalito Boy. 5.00 Pims Gunner. 5.30 Grey Power.
Brian Beel: 4.00 Some Obligation.
Private Handicapper's top rating
2.00 FORMAL INVITATION.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS

2.00 CORVEDALE NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,475: 2m) (13 runners)

1 -541 NIGHT WIND 35 (D,S) A Turnell 6-11-9 — D Fortt (7)
2 20-5 FLY GUARD 15 D Barons 6-11-3 — J Frost
3 8-00 GEORGE LANE 82 F Jordan 5-11-3 — J Lodder
4 PPPP JON'S CHOICE 8 B Preece 5-11-3 — T Wall
5 P-2 KASAYID 22 S Christian 6-11-3 — G Upton
6 -F00 KINGSTHORPE 36 G Yardley 5-11-3 — D Leahy (5)
7 SUGEMAR 6F M Chapman 7-11-3 — W Worthington
8 THE CAN CAN MAN 257F M Johnston 6-11-3 — C Llewellyn
9 ELABJER 20F P Evans 4-10-9 — B Clifford (3)
10 322 FORMAL INVITATION 7 D Nicholson 4-10-9 — R Dunwoody
11 3062 HIGH MIND 7 Miss L Siddall 4-10-9 — P Niven
12 LAUREL CONNECTION 513F Mrs A Hewitt 4-10-9 — R Bellamy
13 525 TRUMPET 103 J O'Shea 4-10-9 — Mr N Bradley (7)

5-4 Formal Invitation, 3-1 Night Wind, 4-1 Kasayid, 6-1 High Mind, 12-1 Trumpet, 20-1 others.

2.30 BORDER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HURDLE (£1,841: 2m) (10)

1 P525 STATED CASE 19 (B,D,BF,G,S) M H Easterby 8-12-0 L Mullaney
2 3400 PANT LLIN 22 (CD,F) F Jordan 7-11-11 — M Doyle (5)
3 5-04 SAYMORE 19 (D,G) R Hollinshead 7-11-8 — S Wynne
4 /034 BRILLIANT FUTURE 14 (D,F) P Hobbs 8-11-6 — M Hourigan
5 2 ACHELOUS 29 J Glover 6-11-4 — S D Williams
6 -335 BENGAL TIGER 17 (V,BF) P Evans 5-11-4 — B Clifford
7 F000 M R TWO 17 P Evans 6-11-4 — D Leahy
8 44PP SPY'S DELIGHT 76 Mrs A Hewitt 7-11-4 — D J Moffatt
9 4825 SULTAN'S SON 84 J Upson 7-11-4 — J James (7)
10 0 THE PERFECT GENT 82 E Birchall 4-10-10 — L O'Hare (5)

5-4 Stated Case, 4-1 Achelous, 5-1 Bengal Tiger, 8-1 Sultan's Son, 10-1 Saymore, 12-1 Pant Llin, 14-1 others.

3.00 FORBRA GOLD CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£4,162: 3m) (6)

1 2200 MAJOR MATCH 14 (C,D,F,G,S) T Forster 11-11-10 — H Davies
2 F335 ROCKTOR 105 (D,BF,F,G,S) D Barons 8-11-4 — J Frost
3 0343 RONANS BIRTHDAY 20 (CD,F,G,S) P Hobbs 11-10-2 — Peter Hobbs
4 4255 MOUNTEBOR 30 (C,D,F,G,S) P Haslam 9-10-1 — J Callaghan
5 40F2 FIGHTING JESSICA 5 (D,G) J Upson 8-10-0 — J White
6 P642 NOUGAT RUSSE 22 (CD,G) N Twiston-Davies 12-10-0 — D Bridgwater

7-4 Major Match, 9-4 Rocktor, 5-1 Ronans Birthday, 8-1 Fighting Jessica, Mountebor, 16-1 Nougat Russe.

3.30 HENLEY HALL GOLD CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,374: 2m 5f 110yd) (9)

1 1125 NORMAX LAD 138 (D,F,G) M Meade 5-11-10 — J Railton
2 0024 SEA TROUT 12 (D,F) C Jones 9-11-5 — G Upton
3 1-00 ACROW LINE 15 (G) D Burchell 8-11-2 — D J Burchell
4 0331 FIRST CRACK 10 (C,F,G,S) F Jordan 8-11-1 — (7ex) J Lodder
5 4P24 BALAAT 13F (F) M Chapman 5-11-0 — W Worthington
6 1611 MYHAMET 14 (G,S) P Hobbs 6-11-0 — Peter Hobbs
7 2612 JAMESTOWN BOY 8 (B,F,G,S) B Preece 5-10-6 — T Wall
8 0433 BICKERMAN 15 (B,C,F,G) J Spearing 10-10-6 — Lorna Vincent
9 0P23 BILLION MELODY 36 (F,G) C Cowley 11-10-5 — Judy Davies (7)

15-8 Myhamet, 11-4 First Crack, 6-1 Normax Lad, 7-1 Balaat, 12-1 Acrow Line, 14-1 Sea Trout, 16-1 Jamestown Boy, 20-1 others.

4.00 LUDLOW HUNTER CHASE
(Amateurs: £1,618: 3m) (8)

1 2FP- BUSTED SPRING 327 (CD,F,G) Mrs I Dady 12-12-6 — A Griffith (7)
2 PP-1 HOLY FOLEY 16 (S) Miss S Pitman 11-12-6 — N Harris (7)
3 0U-3 JUST MICK 22 (CD,F) Mrs H Dowson 12-12-6 J M Pritchard (7)
4 64-1 SOME OBLIGATION 17 (CD,F,G,S) J Upson 8-12-6 T Byrne (7)
5 0/0- CORSTON SPRINGS 308 (G) M Jones 11-12-0 M P Jones (7)
6 53/R KNUCKLE DOWN 22 Miss A Green 12-12-0 — C Stockton (7)
7 6/0- SPRINGMOUNT 633 (F) J Swindells 9-12-0 Miss S Swindells (7)
8 40/U SUNSTANE 18 F Mathews 9-11-9 — J Rice (7)

7-4 Some Obligation, 5-2 Corston Springs, 7-2 Knuckle Down, 9-2 Holy Foley, 8-1 Just Mick, 10-1 Busted Spring, 16-1 others.

4.30 CLEE HILL NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,980: 2m 5f 110yd) (14)

1 1256 ROYAL PIPER 20 (S) D Barons 6-11-10 — J Frost
2 3412 SAUSALITO BOY 43 (D,BF,S) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-10 — C Llewellyn
3 0-20 CELTIC SAGE 83 D Eaden 6-11-4 — J Railton
4 R-P0 COOL APOLLO 17 D Barons 6-11-4 — H Davies
5 2242 DARKBROOK 10 D Gandolfo 6-11-4 — P Holley
6 56 JUST BALLYTOO 10 P Jones 6-11-4 — D Leahy (5)
7 60P0 KANO WARRIOR 14 N Twiston-Davies 6-11-4 — D Bridgwater
8 U003 OLD STEINE 12 P Hobbs 5-11-4 — Peter Hobbs
9 P-P SALIC DANCE 35F G Ham 5-11-4 — S Mackey
10 0-0P SCRIVEN BOY 6 J Edwards 6-11-4 — D Tegg
11 0- SPIN THE COIN 391 B Preece 7-11-4 — P Niven
12 0P-0 CATHS FOLLY 20 J Peacock 6-10-13 — T Wall
13 /00P LITTLE CLARE 56 F Jordan 6-10-13 — J Lodder
14 3FP4 SOLO BUCK 15 (B) A Jones 7-10-13 — G Upton

7-4 Sausalito Boy, 2-1 Royal Piper, 5-1 Darkbrook, 8-1 Old Steine, 10-1 Solo Buck, 16-1 others.

5.00 BROMFIELD NOVICES CHASE
(£2,541: 2m 4f) (9)

1 5535 BOBBY SOCKS 9 R Lee 7-11-4 — Peter Hobbs
2 60PU CAIRNEYMOUNT 15 J Edwards 7-11-4 — D Tegg
3 P00P GEN-TECH 61 A James 6-11-4 — R Bellamy
4 FF5P HELMAR 80 (S) F Jordan 7-11-4 — J Lodder
5 4-UU MASTER MUCK 20 (S) N Twiston-Davies 10-11-4 D Bridgwater
6 PPF0 MAYTOWN 22 (V) P Murphy 7-11-4 — E Byrne
7 1-P6 SMALLMEAD LAD 22 (D,G) D Gandolfo 6-11-4 — P Holley
8 P/0P SOLAR GREEN 40 G Ham 8-11-4 — S Burrough
9 5244 PIMS GUNNER 12 (G) D Burchell 5-10-9 — D J Burchell

7-4 Pims Gunner, 4-1 Bobby Socks, 11-2 Smallmead Lad, 6-1 Helmar, Master Muck, 14-1 Cairneymount, 16-1 Maytown, Solar Green, 25-1 Gen-Tech.

5.30 WILLIAM HILL GOLDEN OLDIES STAKES
(£1,544: 1m 5f) (11)

1 P HOLD FAST 41 C Nash 5-12-3 — Michael Caulfield
2 2-PP BALLAD RULER 105 P Pritchard 7-11-10 — Charles Fawcus
3 -336 HIGH GRADE 5 (G) Miss S Wilton 5-11-10 — Sue Wilton
4 -134 OLVESTON 30 (BF,F,G,S) P Nicholls 9-11-10 — Phil Tuck
5 3040 ROMANY SPLIT 2 D Nicholson 8-11-10 — Mike Gallimore
6 F2/ TOM PENNY 1031 Mrs R Harry 11-11-10 — Bob Davies
7 4P60 GIVE ME HOPE 17 R Price 5-11-9 — Ron Barry
8 -11P GREY POWER 98 (BF,F,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-9 Tom O'Ryan
9 -144 LARA'S BABY 8 (G) N Tinkler 5-11-9 — Jeff King
10 ROYAL GLINT 149F H Haynes 4-11-5 — Graham Thorner
11 4000 YANKEE FLYER 22 (S) Miss S Wilton 6-11-5 — Robin Gray

6-4 Grey Power, 2-1 Lara's Baby, 5-1 Romany Split, 8-1 High Grade, 14-1 Give Me Hope, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Jones, 4 winners from 12 runners, 33.3%; Mrs M Reveley, 3 from 11, 27.3%; S Christian, 6 from 23, 26.1%; R Price, 6 from 25, 24.0%; D Nicholson, 14 from 65, 21.5%; J Edwards, 15 from 83, 18.1%.

JOCKEYS: S Burrough, 4 winners from 15 rides, 26.7%; J White, 4 from 16, 25.0%; J Frost, 6 from 26, 23.1%; P Niven, 4 from 19, 21.1%; D J Burchell, 4 from 23, 17.4%; R Dunwoody, 13 from 75, 17.3%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
2.10 Belmoredean. 2.40 Pirates Gold. 3.10 Awesome Power. *3.40 Strat's Legacy. 4.10 Hinari Video.* 4.40 Ashover.

GOING: STANDARD — SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 MARCO POLO APPRENTICE HANDICAP
(£3,054: 1m) (10 runners)

1 -661 BELMOREDEAN 14 (CD,F,G) R O'Sullivan 8-10-0 — F Norton 10
2 203- SAAHI 13J (D,S) C Weedon 4-9-13 — K Rutter 7
3 006- KILLY 116 (D,F,S) F Lee 4-9-5 — J Weaver 6
4 -058 ALBERT THE BOLD 21 (V,C) A Forbes 4-8-11 — M Humphries 3
5 2413 EXPRESS SERVICE 14 (C) W O'Gorman 4-8-11 — Emma O'Gorman 5
6 00-0 UNVEILED 12 (F,G) R Hodges 5-8-7 — S Drowne 4
7 3-54 AMETHYSTINE 12 (C,D,F,G) R Hodges 7-8-5 — Stephen Davies 9
8 3022 DIAMOND INTHE DARK 10 (V,F) C Tinkler 5-8-5 — D Pears 8
9 5300 SAREEN EXPRESS 24 (CD) Mrs J Dawe 5-7-8 — D Wright 1
10 000- CHINA SKY 23J (D,F) J Moore 5-7-7 — A Whelan (7) 2

7-2 Belmoredean, 4-1 Express Service, 9-2 Diamond Inthe Dark, 6-1 Amethystine, 8-1 Killy, 10-1 Sareen Express, 12-1 Albert The Bold, 14-1 Unveiled, 16-1 others.

2.40 RATIONAL COMBI-STEAMER CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,325: 7f) (5)

1 2213 PIRATES GOLD 17 (C) J White 9-3 — T Quinn 1
2 2214 MISTER BLAKE 14 (B,C,D,BF) W O'Gorman 9-1 — Emma O'Gorman (3) 2
3 2211 STARDUST EXPRESS 7 (CD) M Johnston 9-1 Dean McKeown 3
4 000- THREEOFUS 286 K Ivory 8-9 — Stephen Davies (5) 4
5 0- GATE OF HEAVEN 139 W O'Gorman 7-10 — F Norton (3) 5

6-4 Stardust Express, 9-4 Pirates Gold, 3-1 Mister Blake, 8-1 Gate Of Heaven, 16-1 Threeofus.

3.10 DRAKE HANDICAP (£3,984: 1m 2f) (8)

1 2422 AWESOME POWER 5 (CD,BF,S) J Hills 7-9-11 — W Ryan 2
2 0084 MAJAL 10 (F) J Wainwright 4-8-12 — D Nicholls 1
3 4012 RURAL LAD 12 (S) R Spicer 4-8-12 — D Harrison (3) 4
4 0214 PIGALLE WONDER 12 (C,BF) R O'Sullivan 5-8-9 — D Biggs 7
5 021- SIR NORMAN HOLT 85 (C,F) F Lee 4-8-8 — R Lappin 6
6 0332 JUVENARA 13 (BF,F) A Forbes 7-8-3 — M Humphries (7) 3
7 -532 APPLIANCEOFSCIENCE 14 (D,G) A Reid 6-7-11 — J Quinn 8
8 6000 MODESTO 28 (B,CD,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 5-7-7 S Wood 5

7-2 Rural Lad, 4-1 Awesome Power, 9-2 Pigalle Wonder, 5-1 Applianceofscience, 6-1 Juvenara, 8-1 Sir Norman Holt, 10-1 Majal, 14-1 Modesto.

3.40 DAILY STAR CHALLENGE HANDICAP
(£2,782: 1m 4f) (14)

1 3022 DEBACLE 7 (B,G) G Harwood 4-9-12 — W Woods 2
2 30-6 SINCLAIR LAD 12 (F,G) R Hodges 5-9-8 — W Ryan 4
3 -121 STRAT'S LEGACY 7 (CD,F) D Arbuthnot 6-9-6 (5ex) — J Weaver (3) 10
4 320/ SAFE ARRIVAL 54J D Morris 5-9-5 — M Tebbutt 1
5 4233 EL DOMINIO 14 (C,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 5-9-4 T Quinn 14
6 40-0 COOL PARADE 24 (F) C Tinkler 5-8-12 — J Quinn 3
7 060- SAIF AL ADIL 149 K Ivory 4-8-12 — Stephen Davies (5) 5
8 50-0 GRAND HONDA 7 C Brittain 4-8-9 — B Doyle (5) 12
9 0626 LA REINE ROUGE 3 (CD) Mrs A Knight 5-8-2 — F Norton (3) 9
10 005- DOUBLE THE STAKES 233 F Lee 4-8-2 — R Lappin 13
11 -050 FLASH OF STRAW 35 (B) J Akehurst 4-7-12 — T Williams 6
12 /0-4 NIP 6 A Reid 5-7-9 — D Biggs 11
13 5-66 WESSEX MILORD 33 J Bennett 8-7-7 — Claire Balding (7) 7
14 00-0 SPRING FORWARD 12 (V,F,G,S) R Peacock 9-7-7 — S Wood 8

11-4 Strat's Legacy, 7-2 Debacle, 5-1 El Dominio, 6-1 Sinclair Lad, 8-1 La Reine Rouge, 10-1 Flash Of Straw, 12-1 Cool Parade, Saif Al Adil, 14-1 others.

4.10 NESTLE HANDICAP (£2,807: 5f) (10)

1 6-20 LYNDON'S LINNET 26 (D,BF,F) R Ingram 5-9-12 — A McGlone 7
2 0021 SERIOUS HURRY 14 (CD) C Elsey 5-9-10 — T Quinn 8
3 0005 HINARI VIDEO 7 (CD,G,S) M Johnston 8-9-9 — Dean McKeown 1
4 0-35 GRAND TIME 12 (D,F,S) Mrs J Dawe 4-9-7 — D Wright (7) 4
5 2110 LAST STRAW 10 (D) A Jones 5-9-2 — Claire Balding (7) 3
6 3242 COMET WHIRLPOOL 3 (B) Pat Mitchell 3-9-0 — J Quinn 5
7 30-5 PALACEGATE GOLD 14 (B,C,F) R Hodges 4-9-0 S Drowne (7) 6
8 3205 TEE-EMM 21 (C) P Howling 3-9-0 — L Carter (7) 2
9 3050 KALAR 6 (B,D) D Chapman 4-8-13 — S Wood 10
10 000- ALL THE GIRLS 49J R Dickin 4-8-6 — J Williams 9

3-1 Comet Whirlpool, 4-1 Serious Hurry, 5-1 Last Straw, 6-1 Tee-Emm, 8-1 Grand Time, Hinari Video, 10-1 Lyndon's Linnet, Palacegate Gold, 12-1 others.

4.40 ALPINE MAIDEN GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES (3-Y-O: £2,208: 1m 2f) (7)

1 -345 ASHOVER 17 T Barron 9-0 — Alex Greaves 5
2 00-2 DARING PAST 14 R Boss 9-0 — W Ryan 2
3 000- DOOGAREY 85 J White 9-0 — C Avery 3
4 4-4 HOOCHIECOOCHIE MAN 13 (BF) D Arbuthnot 9-0 — NON-RUNNER 6
5 0-23 PRINCE OF SOUL 13 R Harris 9-0 — J McLaughlin 7
6 22 SPANISH REFUGE 7 Lord Huntingdon 9-0 — Dean McKeown 1
7 00-0 UNIVERSAL 40 K Cunningham-Brown 8-9 — D Biggs 4

6-4 Spanish Refuge, 7-4 Daring Past, 7-2 Ashover, 8-1 Prince Of Soul, 16-1 Universal, 25-1 Doogarey.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Lord Huntingdon, 13 winners from 42 runners, 31.0%; R Boss, 8 from 31, 25.8%; W O'Gorman, 31 from 136, 22.8%; M Johnston, 17 from 77, 22.1%; T Barron, 9 from 41, 22.0%; R O'Sullivan, 23 from 121, 19.0%.

JOCKEYS: Emma O'Gorman, 31 winners from 129 rides, 24.0%; Alex Greaves, 11 from 51, 21.6%; Dean McKeown, 29 from 139, 20.9%; T Quinn, 51 from 256, 19.9%; Stephen Davies, 7 from 36, 19.4%; K Rutter, 7 from 38, 18.4%.

Brave Suluk returns in style

SULUK gained his seventeenth success from 19 attempts on the sand at Southwell yesterday after recovering from an abscess on his fetlock. Two weeks after hobbling off the track with his career thought to be in jeopardy, Suluk regained the winning thread in the Palacegate Racing Selling Hurdle, sponsored by his owners.

Jumping quite markedly right, he went eight lengths clear early in the straight. But, clearly tiring, he slowed right up going to the final obstacle. However, Suluk's gameness shone through and he battled on to beat Auvillar.

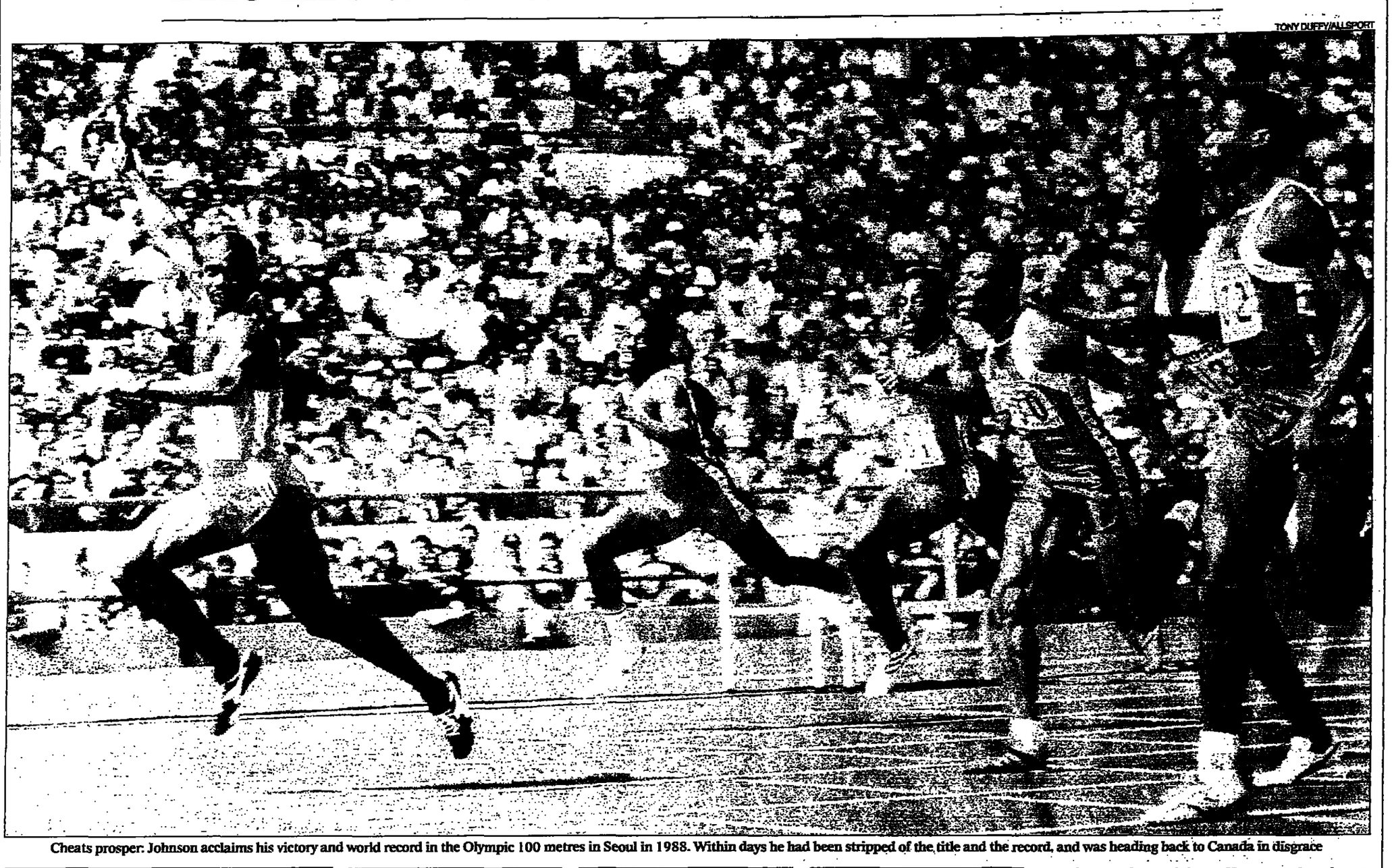
RAPID RACELINE
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 0891-168-168
ALL COMMENTARIES 0891-168-268

0891-168+	COMM.	RESULTS	[illegible]
WARWICK	101	201	301
LUDLOW	102	202	302
LINGFIELD PK	103	203	303
CLONMEL	120	220	320
GREYHOUNDS	122	222	322

[illegible]

The life and fast times of Ben Johnson

TONY DUFFY/ALLSPORT



Cheats prosper: Johnson acclaims his victory and world record in the Olympic 100 metres in Seoul in 1988. Within days he had been stripped of the title and the record, and was heading back to Canada in disgrace



John Goodbody on the rise and fall of an athlete whose admission to cheating shamed the Olympics and broke a nation's heart



The unacceptable face of athletics: Johnson pictured in Zurich in 1988, left, when he was taking steroids, in São Paulo last year, right, and in Hamilton in 1991, centre, when he regularly passed drug tests

He might have been a great sprinter. Instead, Ben Johnson will be remembered as the man who cheated athletics many times and eventually got caught.

When the Canadian tested positive for anabolic steroids in Seoul in 1988 after finishing first in the 100 metres, it was perhaps the most dramatic incident in the history of the modern Olympic Games. Ever since, Johnson has been trying to recover his status as the world's fastest human.

Only last month, he had run 50 metres indoors only 0.05sec outside the world record. The athletics world could scarcely believe it. When there was a report in a Toronto newspaper yesterday that he had been allegedly found positive again last month, it seemed as if the cynicism might be justified.

He has never been forgiven by the Canadian public. It was not so much that he cheated. It was rather that he destroyed their triumph over the United States. They exulted in his victories over Carl Lewis, the most celebrated American athlete, at the 1987 world championships in Rome and, particularly, in Seoul.

Canada has often felt in the shadow of the United States. Johnson briefly allowed the country to come out from that shadow. His compatriots felt betrayed when the Dubin inquiry, set up after Seoul to investigate drug-taking in Canadian sport, had Johnson admitting that he had been taking hormone drugs for years. A headline in a Toronto newspaper at the time summed up the country's resentment. It read: "Ben lied."

His partnership with Charlie Francis, the coach, and Dr Jamie Astaphan had taken Johnson from being one of the best to absolutely the best. He competed in the 1980 Olympics, at the age of 19, only four years after emigrating to Canada from Jamaica. A year later, he began taking hormone drugs to help him add muscle weight and recover more quickly from intensive training. In 1982, he finished second in the Commonwealth Games 100 metres, already showing the explosive start and quick "pick-up" that became his hallmark. Francis knew that the only way Johnson could become an Olympic medal-winner was through drugs, allied to a heavy weight-training programme and intensive practice.

Johnson said later that Francis had persuaded him by insisting "all the world was taking these types of drugs. He was trying to tell me something".

They experimented with giving him human growth hormone, which is used to help undernourished children, and mastered the number of days necessary to rid his body of the banned substances before Johnson was tested in competitions. Until he was caught in 1988, it was estimated that he had passed 20 drug tests.

Information was shared among the athletes about how to avoid getting caught. Robert Armstrong, the lawyer for the Dubin commission, described the conspiracy against the athletics authorities as "the brotherhood of the needle".

In 1984, Johnson became the first Canadian sprinter for 20 years to win a medal at the Olympic Games when he finished third in the 100 metres. Two years later he was Commonwealth champion.

His most successful year was 1987, when he won the world title in a world record 9.83sec and 20 other races during the season. But his nemesis came in Seoul in 1988, just after becoming the most famous athlete in the world by beating Lewis in a world record 9.79sec.

He was found positive for stanozolol, an anabolic steroid, that he had taken — possibly without getting the necessary advice from Francis or Dr Astaphan — in his determination to beat Lewis and Linford Christie. Johnson was stripped of his Olympic title and world record, banned for two years and pursued across the world to his home in Toronto, protesting his innocence. He lost an estimated £6 million in endorsements and race fees for 1989, and probably up to £15 million for the rest of his career.

The following June, speaking under oath at a government inquiry, he admitted knowingly taking banned substances for years. Asked why he did not tell the truth, he replied: "I was ashamed for my family, other Canadian athletes and the kids who looked up to me."

Johnson said: "I want to tell them to be honest. It happened to me. I have been there. I know what it is like to cheat. I want kids not to take drugs. I also want to tell their parents and families." He vowed that he would return to athletics and prove that he is the best in the world. "I will be back," he said.

However, when he returned early in 1991 after undergoing regular dope tests and touring schools and colleges warning children about the dangers of drug abuse, he was just a good runner, not a world champion. Francis had been replaced by Percy Duncan as coach. Johnson was constantly tested, targeted by the Canadian authorities.

There was still so much fascination about his first race against Lewis in 1991 that the American was paid £150,000 and the Canadian £60,000. Lewis won easily.

When Johnson arrived in Spain for the Barcelona Olympic Games, he disappeared to avoid the attentions of the media, finished last in his semi-final and was expelled from the Olympic village after allegedly pushing a security guard during an argument over his accreditation pass. On the 1992 grand prix circuit, Johnson had lost his novelty value as an athlete. He was being paid hundreds rather than thousands of pounds for races.

It was a fall from grace unequalled in the history of athletics. It was also a fall from grace for a sad, simple man who had been used by many people surrounding him. He was a tragedy of sport.

Liverpool turn down Barnes approach from Aston Villa

BY IAN ROSS

AN AUDACIOUS attempt by Aston Villa to prise John Barnes away from Liverpool ended in failure yesterday. The Merseyside club claimed the Villa manager offered £1 million in cash plus two players, Earl Barrett and Garry Parker, in a package deal conservatively valued at £3.5 million.

Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager, said that he had no hesitation in rejecting Villa's offer, which would suggest that rumours of a rift between himself and the England international winger may have been exaggerated.

"Ron Atkinson phoned me and offered Earl, Garry and £1 million for John Barnes," he said. "I told him that the deal did not appeal to me in any way. Recently, I appointed John Barnes as club captain at Liverpool and, I would have to say, I agree totally with those people who have described him as one of the few great talents in this country.

"He has had his injury problems in recent weeks and he is still not playing at his very best, but I do want him to stay here at Anfield and recapture the form which I know he is capable of."

Although both Barrett, who joined Villa from Oldham Athletic for £1.7 million, and Parker, an £800,000 purchase from Nottingham Forest, are established and key members of Villa's first-team squad, Atkinson has privately indicated that he believes the enigmatic Barnes could make a telling impact in the weeks ahead as his side attempts to win the Premier League in its inaugural season.

In many respects, Souness's rejection of a bid that must be regarded as generous, bearing in mind Barnes's age (29) and his recent poor form, is a little confusing, for he has seriously considered making attempts to sign both Barrett and Parker in the past 12 months. His side would undoubtedly benefit from the introduction of two players of such experience.

Atkinson confirmed last night he has looked into the possibility of signing Barnes, but he denied Liverpool's claim that he had offered a part-exchange deal involving Barrett, Parker and a further £1 million.

"I made an enquiry a few weeks ago to see how the land lay with several players," he said, "but we haven't made any bids apart from the one we made to Chelsea for Mick Harford."

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Tottenham lick their wounds after defeat

BY OUR SPORT STAFF

TOTTENHAM Hotspur had hoped to enter Sunday's FA Cup quarter-final against Manchester City in form and with their confidence soaring instead, after Tuesday night's 6-0 defeat at Sheffield United, they are struggling to regroup before their weekend visit to Maine Road.

Gary Mabbutt, their captain, described the game at Bramall Lane as "the worst defeat of my career" and said: "It is a time for us to show our character. We have already demonstrated our spirit before this season by recovering from a poor start to set off on such a good run. Now we have to start all over again.

"We went to Sheffield with six wins in a row behind us and we have to get straight back to that sort of form. It is a big match for us on Sunday. Tottenham have a great tradition in the Cup and we want that to continue."

He went on: "We really think that we can progress in the competition even after this result. It was just one of those nights. We got what we deserved — a good hiding."

Sheffield United, however, were still celebrating the victory yesterday. Goals from Franz Carr, Ian Bryson (2), Brian Deane, Paul Rogers and an own goal from Andy Gray had earned the club its biggest win in years and nobody at Bramall Lane could quite believe what was happening, especially with the side 4-0 up inside 29 minutes. Sheffield, too, have a cup quarter-final to look forward to this weekend.

Dave Bassett, the United manager, said: "We have shown yet again that we can beat anyone in the Premier League on our day but our problem is one of consistency. This was a great victory and hopefully it will give us extra confidence for the match at Blackburn. We all know that you can't win 6-0 every game but if we can reproduce that sort of performance and application we will do ourselves justice."

☐ The first concrete bid to buy up-for-sale Birmingham City was lodged with the club's receiver yesterday. An unnamed London-based investment trust made an undisclosed offer for the struggling first division club, but the bid is likely to be withdrawn if it is not accepted before the end of this week.

England management try to ease pressure on Barmby

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

NICK Barmby, the subject of a brief, if heated, dispute between his club, Tottenham Hotspur, and the Football Association over his selection for the England youth team at the World Youth Cup in Australia, will begin the tournament under a shroud of silence.

Anxious to protect the young forward from any pressure arising from the club v country argument, David Burnside, the England youth team manager, has banned any contact between Barmby and the media.

"We don't want to pressure the boy any more than is necessary and he may just say something that gets taken out of context and give him, his club and the Football Association a problem," Burnside said yesterday. "We feel the best thing is to keep him out of the spotlight as much as possible — and hope that he is in the spotlight on Sunday [when England play their first game, against South Korea]."

Burnside said Barmby has set aside his disappointment at missing Tottenham's FA Cup quarter-final at Manchester City on Sunday and had shown "great character" in turning his attention to England's cause.

"He has great qualities and has settled in brilliantly," Burnside said. "We played Denmark a fortnight ago. Barmby was getting so tightly marked it would have been easier for him to play for England against San Marino. The pressure on him is obvious but he has the ability to do it."

Barmby will partner Ian Selley, of Arsenal, in the England attack for their opening group C game at Melbourne's Olympic Park. Graham Taylor, the England manager, will be on hand to see how the youth team fares, and Burnside said: "Graham Taylor is interested in watching and looking at all players, but he has a soft spot for this team and he believes there are several players good enough to make the senior national side."



Barmby: under wraps

England concentrated on set-pieces in yesterday's training session, working at free kicks and corners. The players appeared relaxed and in a good frame of mind after looking uneasy in the opening training session after the long flight from England.

The side is likely to play a 4-4-2 formation with the emerging Sheffield Wednesday midfield player, Chris Bart-Williams, filling a vital playmaking role in midfield alongside another Premier League player, Jamie Pollock, of Middlesbrough.

ENGLAND (v South Korea): D Watson (Barnsley); S Watson (Newcastle United), A Myers (Chelsea), J Pollock (Middlesbrough), I Pearce (Chelsea), A Hughes (Crewe Alexandra), C Bart-Williams (Sheffield Wednesday), D Caskey (Tottenham Hotspur), N Barmby (Tottenham Hotspur), I Selley (Arsenal), A Thompson (Newcastle United).

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (57655) **7.00 Breakfast News** (75411742)
9.05 Kilroy (s) (5591365) **9.45 Ross King.** Game show (s) (4887094)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (5998487) **10.05 Playdays.** For the very young (s) (7510297)
10.30 Good Morning... with Anne and Nick. Magazine series (s) (56177384)
12.15 Pebble Mill. With Alan Titchmarsh (s) (8822568) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (29134907)
1.00 One O'Clock News presented by Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (77346)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (76241015) **1.50 First Letter First.** Word game. (s) (72641051)
2.15 Film: Isabel's Choice (1981) starring Jean Stapleton and Peter Coyote. Drama about a middle-aged widow forced to choose between career and marriage. Directed by Guy Green (335742)
3.50 Rupert (r) (2043013) **3.55 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams** (s) (8225346)

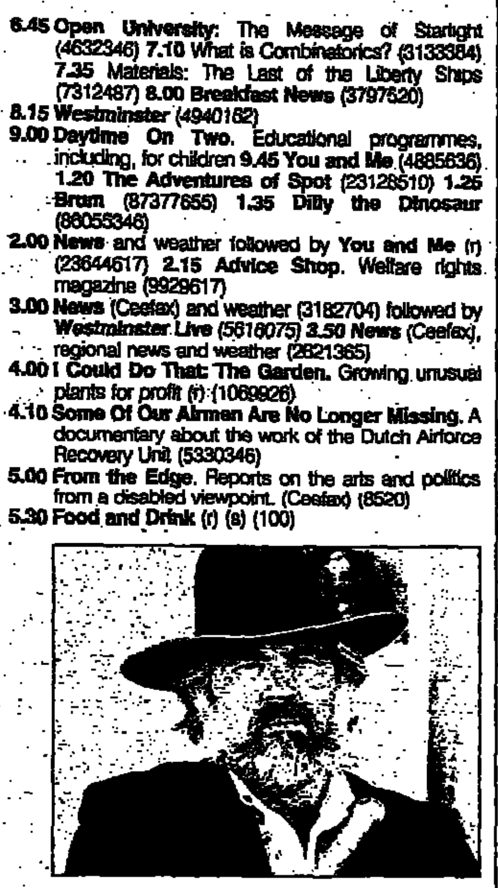


A children's story-teller: Dawn French (4.10pm)

4.10 Jackanory. Dawn French with the story of *Daisy Pig* (r) (s) (8066471) **4.25 The New Yogi Bear Show** (r) (6082094) **4.30 Dizzy Heights.** Comedy series. (Ceefax) (s) (3291094)
4.55 Newsround (6383926) **5.05 Blue Peter.** A studio audience has the chance to question the education secretary, John Patten, on educational reforms. (Ceefax) (s) (6889617)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (508687). Northern Ireland: *Inside Ulster*
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (471)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (723). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Top of the Pops (s) (9182)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (907)
8.00 Wildlife on One: Too Close for Comfort? The life of the hunter-killer chimpanzee, filmed over two years by Michael Richards in West Africa's Tai Forest (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6162)
8.30 Side by Side. Innocuous comedy series starring Louisa Rix and Gareth Hunt as neighbours with nothing in common. (Ceefax) (s) (5297)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (3433)
9.30 Chef! Lenny Henry's forthright chef gets the taste *for television cookery programmes while wife Janice* (Caroline Lee Johnson) takes over the running of the restaurant. (Ceefax) (s) (86433)
10.00 Question Time chaired by Peter Sissons. This week's panel is the health minister, Dr Brian Mawhinney, Margaret Prosser, national organiser of the TGWU, Baroness Blackstone and the president of the *Liberal* Democrats, Charles Kennedy (7742)
11.00 Law and Order. A black activist politician uses the claims of a young black woman that she has been *raped by a white policeman to further his career* (r) (s) (534723). Wales (to 12.00): Black as Hell, Thick as Grass; Northern Ireland: 11.30 Law and Order 12.15am-12.30 Call to Prayer **11.45 Call To Prayer.** Muslims talk about their faith (645568)
12.00 Weather (1736056). Ends at **12.05am.** Wales: Call to Prayer 12.15 Smokey Robinson in Concert 1.10 News and weather
3.00 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update (59124). Ends at **4.00**

BBC2

6.45 Open University: The Message of Starlight (4632346) **7.10** What is Combinatorics? (3133384) **7.35** Materials: The Last of the Liberty Ships (7312487) **8.00 Breakfast News** (3797520)
8.15 Westminster (4940182)
9.00 Daytime On Two. Educational programmes, including, for children **9.45 You and Me** (4885636) **1.20 The Adventures of Spot** (23128510) **1.25 Brum** (87377655) **1.35 Dilly the Dinosaur** (86055346)
2.00 News and weather followed by **You and Me** (r) (23644617) **2.15 Advice Shop.** Welfare rights magazine (9929617)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (3182704) followed by **Westminster Live** (5618075) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2821365)
4.00 I Could Do That: The Garden. Growing unusual plants for profit (r) (1069926)
4.10 Some Of Our Airmen Are No Longer Missing. A documentary about the work of the Dutch Airforce Recovery Unit (5330346)
5.00 From the Edge. Reports on the arts and politics from a disabled viewpoint. (Ceefax) (8520)
5.30 Food and Drink (r) (s) (100)



From disc to screen: Kenny Rogers (6.00pm)

6.00 Film: Kenny Rogers as the Gambler (1980). A made-for-television drama, based on the lyrics of Kenny Rogers's hit record "The Gambler" in which a professional gambler, living on his wits, is faced with the biggest gamble of his life after being asked for help by his illegitimate son. With Bruce Boxleitner and Christine Belford. Directed by Dick Lowry (84297). Wales: Japanese Language and People 6.30 Off the Back of a Lorry 7.00 Advice Shop
7.30 First Sight: Caution, Bullies at Work. Michael Delahaye reports on how bullying at the workplace can ruin people's lives (549). Wales: Citizen Smith; Midlands: Midlands Report; North, North-east, North-west: Close Up North; South: Southern Eye; South-west: Close Up; West: Close Up West
8.00 The Snow Show presented by Muriel Gray (4704)
8.30 Top Gear. Includes Chris Goffey test driving the new Vauxhall Corsa (s) (3839)
9.00 French and Saunders. This week, among the comedy sketches, is a tongue-in-cheek tribute to Swedish film-maker Ingmar Bergman. (Ceefax) (s) (1075)
9.30 Labour of Love. (Ceefax) See Choice (631655)
10.10 The Staggering Stories of Ferdinand De Bargos (s) See Choice (925013)
10.30 Newsnight presented by Francine Stock (763013)
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (996029) **11.55 Weather** (515986)
12.00 Jumpcuts. A preview of the weekend's Open University programmes (1734698)
12.05am Childbirth and Contraception: Choices and Chances. (2631037). Ends at **12.35**

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CHOICE

Harry Enfield's Guide to Opera
Channel 4, 10.30pm

This half-hour series aims to make opera accessible to a wide audience. Normally the comedian, Enfield's main role here is straight man, asking the ordinary person's questions at a basic level. He does, however, revert to familiar type with two sets of fictional characters. The Ponces serve to expose the arrogant and pretentious, while Dad and Son are fruit and veg merchants representing opera's classless appeal. The *content is mainstream: Mozart, Puccini and Bizet but* nothing modern or obscure. Excerpts are performed by members of Opera North and there are interviews with Sutherland, Carreras and Domingo.

A Labour of Love: Tears and Fears
BBC2, 9.30pm

Steve Humphries's excellent series on bringing up children in Britain focuses on the 1930s, when youngsters were expected to know their place and a slap round the ear was still politically correct. Using personal memories, intercut with the patronising propaganda films of the period, Humphries offers a *sharp analysis of the divisions of gender and class.* Girls were expected to become good housewives and mothers and not to expect husbands to help in the home. Trapped and unfulfilled, many women suffered nervous breakdowns. The class divide was tangibly expressed in Oxford, where middle-class residents put up a wall to separate them from the "rougher, dirtier *and less well-mannered*" kids from the housing estate.



Voice-overs: cast in the surreal (BBC2, 10.10pm)

Staggering Stories of Ferdinand De Bargos
BBC2, 10.10pm

The mythical South American is back to hobnob with the famous in another series blending archive film with new voice-overs. Essentially the show is *Spitting Image* without the puppets. Indeed many of the voices are supplied by *Spitting Image* veterans. Part of the gag is that De Bargos himself is never seen. He is evoked entirely by *others*, who *tonight* include the celluloid ghosts of George Bernard Shaw and Winston Churchill. We chart De Bargos's progress through the 20th century as he teaches Hitler how to dance, makes existentialist westerns in Hollywood and puts Andy Warhol on to Campbell's soup tins.

Turning the Screws
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The Wandsworth prison dispute reaches its climax in a story of twists and turns that *grips to the very last.* Roger Graef's series has offered a microcosm of British industrial relations, with management on the offensive and unions struggling against pretty hopeless odds. Graef's treatment has been neutral enough to allow us to decide where our sympathies lie. Do we share the scarcely concealed glee of Wandsworth's unbending governor as he sees things moving his way? Or do we feel for the prison officers, and their embattled leader, Mark Healy, as they try to *fight the imposition of new shift patterns?*

Peter Waymark

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (8110926)
9.25 Jeopardy! Back-to-front quiz with the contestants having to supply the questions to answers given by Steve Jones (3047891) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7596617)
10.00 The Time... The Place... Discussion programme (1115742)
10.35 This Morning Magazine series (38118182)
12.10 The Riddlers. Entertainment for the very young (6304549)
12.30 Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (4429181) **1.05 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (57624013)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial (Teletext) (419704) ***1.45 A Country Practice.*** Medical drama serial (s) (418075)
2.15 Snooker The Wickes British Open (7148471)
3.10 ITN News headlines and weather (3193810) **3.15 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (3192181) **3.20 Blockbusters.** Teenagers' general knowledge quiz, presented by Bob Holness (9337452)
3.50 Where's Wally? Animation (3386278) **4.15 Mike and Angelo.** Comedy drama (s) (9624839) **4.35 Tiny Toon Adventures** (3285433) **5.00 Cartoon** (2023029)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (6806384)
5.40 Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (664723)
6.00 London Tonight. (Teletext) (40164)
7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (5810)
7.30 3D. Current affairs series presented by Julia *Somerville. One of tonight's stories is that of* Anglican priest David Randall, who has been HIV positive for six years, and his Greek boyfriend Charles who has Aids, whom he met after both had contracted the illness (s) (425)



Lisa Geoghan arrests Lee Whitlock (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill: Keeping in Touch. PC Stamp (Graham Cole) and WPC Page (Lisa Geoghan) investigate a burglary at the home of blind Mrs Ellis (Daphne Oxenford). (Teletext) (4758)
8.30 Minder: Last Orders at the Winchester. When one of Arthur's business ventures goes wrong it puts the existence of the Winchester in doubt. Ray decides to try to raise money to save the club by organising a charity football match between the members and the local police. (Teletext) (50297)
9.30 Disguises. *The second of a two-part report in which* Adam Holloway makes out he is schizophrenic in order to discover the realities of care in the community (84029)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (74100) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (694029)
10.40 Big City. London's entertainments scene (980592)
11.10 Snooker. The Wickes British Open (770013)
12.30am The Equalizer. The conclusion of the story in which McCall must recover Control's kidnapped daughter (87124)
1.30 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness news (34969)
2.00 America's Top Ten (s) (27230)
2.30 Donahue. Six lottery winners reveal how they spent their money (52785)
3.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Reunion. A tale with a twist (r) (90619)
4.00 Entertainment UK. Leisure time guide (r) (s) (86766) **5.00 Riviera.** French soap (72143)
5.30 ITN Morning News (87414). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Sesame Street (r) (6610487)
6.45 Dennis. Animated adventures of a mischievous boy (9621433)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (90297)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (68549)
9.30 Schools (145075)
12.00 The Parliament Programme Anne Perkins reports on the business of both Houses (71013)
12.30 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series (10181)
1.30 Lift Off. Children's entertainment (98278)
2.00 Film: Sailing Along (1938, b/w) starring Jessie Matthews. Musical tale of the adopted daughter of a *bargee who gives up her successful dancing career* for love. Directed by Sonny Hale (973891)
3.40 Masterworks An appreciation of Hans Memling's *St John Altarpiece* in Vienna, a masterpiece of 15th century Bruges art (8228433)
3.55 Food File Magazine series on food and drink issues. Includes a report on the future of the kitchen and advice on healthy eating in later life (r) (Teletext) (s) (1974297)
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game presented by Richard Whiteley. (Teletext) (s) (988)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Spike Lee talks about the problems he had in making the film *Malcolm X*. He is joined by Malcolm X's widow, Dr Betty Shabazz, and their daughter Attallah. (Teletext) (s) (7489051)
5.50 The Magic Roundabout. Classic children's series. Narrated by Nigel Planer (r) (174891)
6.00 The Word — Access All Areas. Includes the comedians Punt and Dennis, demo band Melissa M and Them and rapper LL Cool J (s) (181)
6.30 Gamesmaster. Computer game show. The guest is Aston Villa and England footballer Tony Daley. Presented by Dominik Diamond (433)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (896574)
7.50 Comment. Richard Muldoon, artistic director of the Hackney Empire, on the threat of the theatre's closure due to underfunding (628742)
8.00 Close To Home. A report from Gwynedd on relations between English immigrants and Welsh nationalists (Teletext) (2100)
8.30 The Secret Life Of... The Word Processor Tim Hunkin explores the world of computers (r). (Teletext) (8907)
9.00 Turning the Screws. (Teletext) See Choice (7365)
10.00 Drop the Dead Donkey. *Topical comedy series set* in a television newsroom. This week Gus decides that a weekend's "adventure-harmonising" is needed as the team seem to be suffering from "unbonding" (s) (72742)



Arias and graces: Harry Enfield (10.30pm)

10.30 Harry Enfield's Guide to the Opera (s) See Choice (659510)
11.05 The Avengers (b/w). Spoof secret agent series from the 1960s starring Patrick Macnee and Honor Blackman (r) (652278)
12.10am Dispatches. A documentary on the street children of St Petersburg, Russia's second city (r) (3453872)
1.00 The Dick Powell Theatre: Who Killed Julie Greer (b/w). Thriller about the death of a dancer, starring Ronald Reagan and Mickey Rooney (r) (74650). Ends at **2.00**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9337452) **5.10-5.40** Dinosaurs (6806384) **6.00** Home and Away (446520) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (302723) **10.40-11.10** Wideangle (980592) **12.30** Coach (32476) **1.00** Wrestling (1160834) **1.40** Film: Guns of the Timberland (319835) **3.20** America's Top Ten (5577414) **3.50** Nite Bites (40812650) **4.05** Des'ree (33077785) **4.30** Riviera (94853) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (72143)

BORDER
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9337452) **6.00** Lookaround (839) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (891) **10.40-11.10** Westminster File (980592) **12.30** Coach (32476) **1.00** Wrestling (1160834) **1.40** Film: Guns of the Timberland (319835) **3.20** America's Top Ten (20900245) **3.50** Nite Bites (69087018) **4.05** Des'ree (33077785) **4.30** Riviera (94853) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (419704) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (418075) **3.20-3.50** GP (9337452) **5.10-5.40** The New Adventures of Black Beauty (6806384) **6.00** Home and Away (446520) **6.25-7.00** Central News (461839) **10.40** Central Lobby (980592) **11.10** 1st Night (966278) **11.40** Snooker (558013) **1.00** Hollywood Report (73360) **1.30** The Little Picture Show (61969) **2.30** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (13037) **3.00** *America's Top Ten* (93124) **3.30** Stage 2 (57230) **4.30** Jobfinder (3648871) **5.20-5.30** Asian News (2245389)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (419704) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (418075) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (9337452) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (6806384) **6.00** Home and Away (839) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (891) **10.40-11.10** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (980592) **12.30** Coach (32476) **1.00** Wrestling (1160834) **1.40** Film: Guns of the Timberland (319835) **3.20** America's Top Ten (20900245) **3.50** Night Bites (69087018) **4.05** Des'ree (33077785) **4.30-5.00** Riviera (94853)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (418075) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (9337452) **6.00** HTV News (839) **6.30-7.00** Living Memory (891) **10.40** The West This Week (756723) **11.25** HTV Weekend Outlook (843988) **11.40** Snooker (895471) **12.30** Coach (34276) **1.00** Wrestling (1160834) **1.40** Film: Guns of the Timberland (319834) **3.20** America's Top Ten (20900245) **3.50** Nite Bites (69087018) **4.05** Des'ree (33077785) **4.30-5.00** Riviera (94853)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six 6.30-7.00 The Really Helpful Programme **7.30-8.00** Wales this Week **10.40** A Slice of Life **11.25** Weekend Ahead! **11.40** Wales & Westminster **12.10-12.30** Snooker

MERIDIAN
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9337452) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (839) **6.30-7.00** Future Perfect (891) **10.40-11.10** The Pier (980592) **12.30-1.30** War of the Worlds (67124)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9337452) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (839) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (891) **10.40-11.10** Put it in Writing (980592) **12.30** Film: Dracula, Prisoner of Frankenstein (61747) **2.00** America's Top Ten (27230) **2.30** *Cinema, Cinema, Cinema* (13037) **3.00** Film: Floods of Fear (95853) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (74921)

ULSTER
As London except: 6.00-7.00 UTV Live at Six (40164) **10.40-11.10** Counterpoint (980592) **12.30** Coach (32476) **1.00** Wrestling (1160834) **1.40-3.20** Film: Guns of the Timberland (319835)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (418075) **3.20-3.50** A Country Practice (9337452) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (40164) **10.40-11.10** Commando (980592) **12.30** Coach (32476) **1.00** Wrestling (1160834) **1.40** Film: Guns of the Timberland (319835) **3.20** *America's Top Ten* (20900245) **3.50** Nite Bites (69087018) **4.05** Des'ree (33077785) **4.30** Riviera (94853) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (72143)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9337452) **5.55** Calendar (442097) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (891) **10.40-11.10** Edit V (980592) **12.30** Film: Dracula, Prisoner of Frankenstein (61747) **2.00** America's Top Ten (27230) **2.30** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (13037) **3.00** Film: *Floods of Fear* (95853) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (74921)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (90297) **9.00** *You Bet Your Life* (68549) **9.30** Ysgolion (145075) **12.00** The Parliament Programme (71013) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (99907) **1.00** Sesame Street (87182) **2.00** Film: The Cowboy and the Lady (14075) **3.30** Dublin in Brass (4873013) **3.55** Food File (4858704) **4.25** Slot 23 (3848691) **5.00** Countdown (9948) **5.30** Gamesmaster (568) **6.00** News (900758) **6.10** Heno (422926) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (3452) **7.30** Tony Ac Aloma (617) **8.00** Adlais (2100) **8.30** News (585723) **8.55** Taro 9 (874471) **9.30** Operation Hospital (90641) **10.00** Drop the Dead Donkey (72742) **10.30** Close to Home (58162) **11.00** Film: Hope and Glory (26810) **1.00-1.30** The Word Access All Areas (17330)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (36954452) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (6584756) **9.10** Cartoons (2821075) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (44471) **10.00** Strike it Rich (83487) **10.30** The Bold and the Beautiful (13013) **11.00** Hart to Hart (39100) **12.00** Falcon Crest (34094) **1.00pm** E Street (17988) **1.30** Another World (4849855) **2.15** Santa Barbara (231538) **2.45** Maude (681079) **3.15** Different Strokes (336902) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5063181) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (1013) **6.00** Games World (8655) **6.30** E Street (9907) **7.00** Rescue (2742) **7.30** Family Ties (8891) **8.00** Melrose Place (79181) **9.00** Chances (66617) **10.00** WKRP in Cincinnati (68574) **10.30** Star Trek: The Next Generation (12704) **11.30** Studs (87641) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (25568) **8.30** News and Business Report (741568) **9.30** Nightline (52425) **10.30** Beyond 2000 (88181) **11.30** International Business Report (91433) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (98297) **1.30** Good Morning America (90926) **2.30** Parliament Live (9352520) **3.15** Parliament Live (2040384) **4.30** News and Business Report (5704) **5.00** Live at Five (89015) **6.30** News and Business Report (47471) **7.30** *Financial Times* Reports (6433) **10.30** Nightline (10346) **11.30** ABC News (58605) **12.30am** *Financial Times* Reports (23940) **1.30** ABC News (92853) **2.30** Beyond 2000 (22143) **3.30** ABC News (94360) **4.30** *Financial Times* Reports (12105) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (25696)

SKY MOVIES PLUS
6.00am Showcase (2325758)
10.00 The Dream Machine (1991): Corey Haim acquires a Porsche (26075)
12.00 Judith (1966): Sophia Loren seeks revenge on her Nazi husband (85891)
2.00pm Lightning, the White Stallion (1986): Children's adventure (83384)
4.00 A Tower's Revenge (1989): A woman with a past returns home (39075)
5.00 Stood Up: Adolescent drama (6181)
6.00 The Dream Machine (as 10am) (63520)
8.00 Highlander II — The Quickening (1991): Christopher Lambert attempts to destroy an ozone shield (75365)
10.00 Child's Play 2 (1990). A murderous doll menaces Alex Vincent (8373297)
11.25 Maniac Cop 2 (1990). Horror story about a psychotic police officer (782723)
12.55am 52 Pick-Up (1986): Roy Scheider is blackmailed by porn merchants (359921)
2.40 Mindgames (1989): A hitch-hiker *torments a family (629650)*
4.15 Daddy's Dyin'... Who's Got the Will? (1990): Comedy with Beau Bridges and Beverly D'Angelo (784476). Ends at **5.50**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm The Dresser (1983): Tom Courtenay looks after Albert Finney (54810)
8.00 Frasier, the Lovable Lion (1973). Comedy about a zoo-keeper (97880669)
9.45 Inside Daisy Clover (1965) Natalie Wood as a film star in the thirties (76815384) Ends at **11.55**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Tales of Hoffman (1951). Based on Jacques Offenbach's fantasy opera about the poet Hoffman (21317278)
8.10 Young Survivors (1982): Three children are stranded on a shipwreck (57864605)
10.00 Islands in the Stream (1976) Hemingway's tale starring George C Scott as an artist in the Bahamas (24617)
12.00 Mary, Queen of Scots (1971): Starring Vanessa Redgrave (86013164)
2.15pm Return to Green Acres (1990) Comedy about a backwater town. With Eddie Albert and Eva Gabor (523810)
4.00 Young Survivors (as 8 10am) (7487)
6.00 A Shock to the System (1990) Michael Caine murders his way up the corporate ladder (61162)
8.00 Heart Condition (1990) Bob Hoskins receives a heart transplant from Denzel Washington (73907)
10.00 Warm Summer Rain (1989) A young couple spend a week together in a desert shack (8371839)
***11.25 Last Wish** (1991) Fact-based drama* about a woman with cancer who asks her daughter to help her die (359365)
1.05am Creator (1985): Mariel Hemingway *upsets scientist Peter O'Toole's plan to re*create his dead wife (403582)
2.55 Town on Trial (1957): A Scotland Yard detective investigates the murder of a woman. With Charles Coburn (379872)
4.35 1001 Arabian Nights. Cartoon (7065105). Ends at **5.50**

SKY SPORTS
6.00am One-Day Cricket: India v England (5074029) **11.30** The Club Show: Leeds Utd (87636) **12.00** Watersports World (91988) **1.00pm** Ringside (31094) **3.00** ATP Tennis (33723) ***5.00 High Five** (1278)* **5.30** WWF Wrestling Challenge (71510) **6.30** Cricket: India v England (34162) **8.30** The Boot Room (9297) **9.00** USPGA Golf: Doral Ryder Open from Miami (14278) **11.00** ATP Tennis (32094) **1.00** German Football (321414) **2.45** The Boot Room (555960) **3.15-6.00** Cricket: India v England (72165747)

EUROSPORT
***7.30am Step Aerobics (55182) 8.00 Golf* Magazine** (30029) **9.00** Biathlon (22346) **11.00** Football (84810) **12.00** Biathlon (876568) **2.30pm** Basketball (27452) **4.00** Ice Hockey (5617) **6.00** Biathlon (5723) **6.30** News (8075) **7.00** Ford Ski Report (20839) **8.00** Trans World Sport (87177) **9.00** Football (86966) **11.00** Kick Boxing (52075) **12.00-12.30am** News (46105)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (52450907) **6.15** Button Moon (52448162) ***6.30** Bucky O'Hare* (8269568) **7.00** Bravestarr (2689365) **7.30** Neighbours (2691100) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (1208810) **8.30** EastEnders (1207181) **9.00** The Bill (1298433) **9.30** The Onedin Line (6200365) **10.30** Juliet Bravo (3611433) **11.30** Don't Wait Up (9254097) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (1218297) **12.30pm** Neighbours (6410723) **1.00** EastEnders (2688636) **1.30** The Bill (6419094) **2.00** 'Allo 'Allo! (2139723) **2.30** French Fields (5832297) **3.00** Dallas (5854035) **4.00** Bravestarr (5823549) **4.30** Dake Wilson (5812433) **5.00** Candid Camera (2120075) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (5836013) **6.00** Neighbours (5833926) **6.30** The Onedin Line (1100075) **7.30** 'Allo 'Allo! (5813162) **8.00** EastEnders (2222487) **8.30** French Fields (2138094) **9.00** Juliet Bravo (2907655) **10.00** The Bill (1219926) **10.30** Carrott Confidential (1295346) **11.00** Dick Emery (6200177) **11.30** Film: Power Play (2118013) **1.20-2.00am** Video Bites (5538018)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
***6.00am** Stories Without Words (92278)* **6.30** Non-Stop Cartoon Capers (9086162) **7.15** Widget (785704) **8.45** Jack in the Box (560742) **10.45** Stories Without Words (494520) **11.15** Non-Stop Cartoon Capers (9163013) **12.00** Boy Dominic (74159) **12.30pm** CDO (45723) **1.00** Jack in the Box (12568) **3.00** Widget (38384) **4.00** Spiff and Hercules (3704) **4.30** The Legend of White Fang (9989) **5.00** Pugwall (4520) **5.30** Saved by the Bell (3568) **6.00-7.00** Fame (53742)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Talking About the Enlightenment
6.55 Weather
7.00 ***On Air***, *with Andrew* McGregor. Including Bach (Concerto in C for three harpsichords, BWV 1064); Finzi (Elegy), Stravinsky (Suite No 1 for small orchestra); Strauss (Don Juan)
9.00 Composers of the Week: *Hindemith in the Twenties. Hin* und Zurück, Op 45a (Barbara Miller, soprano, Claus Böck, tenor, Ulrich Schaible, baritone, *Helmut Kuhnle*, bass; Berlin SO under Arthur Grüber); Little Pieces, Op 37/II (Werner Bärtschi, piano); *Kammermusik No 4*, Op 36 No 3 (Wolfgang Hock, violin; Ensemble 13 Baden-Baden under Manfred Reichert)
10.00 Morning Sequence: Berlioz (Overture, Roman Carnival); Poulenc (Trio); Rameau (Overture and Dances, Castor et Pollux); Dutilleux (Tout un monde lointain); Rameau (Dances, Castor et Pollux); Madeleine Dring (Trio); Debussy (Nocturnes)
12.00 Russian Piano Music, played by John Bingham (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 Brandenburg Concertos: Lyndon Jenkins introduces the first of two programmes featuring rediscovered recordings of the six concertos made in 1947 by the Boyd Neel Orchestra. Bach (Brandenburg Concertos: No 2 in F; No 6 in B flat; No 1 in F)
2.10 Cardillac. RIAS Choir, Berlin *Radio Symphony* under Gerd Albrecht perform Paul Hindemith's opera, to a libretto by Ferdinand Lion after a story *by E.T.A. Hoffmann. Sung in* German. With Siegmund Nimsgern as Cardillac, Verena Schweizer as his daughter and Robert Schunk as *her lover*
4.10 Beethoven and Brahms, played by Allan Sternfield, piano. Beethoven (Sonata in C, Op 2 No 3); Brahms (Variations on an original theme, Op 21 No 1) (r)
5.00 In Tune: David Owen Norris talks to the horn player Barry Tuckwell
7.30 Towards the Millennium: A *live concert from Birmingham's* Symphony Hall. Simon Rattle conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. With Elise Ross, soprano. Shostakovich (Symphony No 1); Berg (Three Wozzeck Fragments); Varèse (Amériques); Gershwin (An American in Paris)
● *CHOICE*: A solid gold curtain-raiser to the Gershwin is Frank Delaney's 1982 interview with the late Maria Jolas, a real American in Paris, during the interval at **8.25**. Her flow of marvellous anecdotes was unstemmable. In brilliant thumbnail sketches, the titans of cultural Paris of the 1920s live again: James Joyce, who wrote a 12-verse poem about her Thanksgiving turkey, Gertrude Stein ("aggressive, didn't like her!"); Ezra Pound ("A snob, I'll make you a present of him!"); and Hemingway, who turned up to *one of her cocktail parties in blue overalls and was nearly turned away by the concierge*
9.35 Aldous Huxley: Fard. Edward Petherbridge reads the fourth of five short stories set in the twenties
9.55 John Williams plays his guitar transcriptions. Scarlatti (Sonata in A minor, Kk175); Couperin (Les baricades mystérieuses; Les Moissonneurs, Ordre No 6); Roncalli (Passacaglia, Suite No 9 in G minor); Scarlatti (Sonata in D, from Sonata in C, Kk159)
10.15 The Myth Maker: The *American record producer* George Avakian talks about his work with the Charles Lloyd Quartet (r)
10.45 Night Waves: *Robert Hewison* discusses an exhibition of popular Hindu art and the work of contemporary artists from the Indian subcontinent
11.30 Ravel's Songs: Ballade de la reine morte d'aimer; Un grand sommeil noir; Sainte; Chanson du rouet; Si morne!; Deux Epigrammes de Clément Marot; Manteau de fleurs; Cinq *mélodies populaires grecques* (Anja van Wijk, mezzo, Ruud van der Meer, baritone, Rudolf Jansen, piano); Shéhérazade (*Margaret Price, soprano; LSO under Claudio Abbado*)
12.30-12.35am News.
1.00-2.00 Night School (except in Scotland; as R5 at 9.15-9.35am and 1.05-1.45pm)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: Jeremy Paxman chairs the first of a new series. With Edward Pearce, Janet Daley, Rabbi Hugo Gryn and Professor Roger Scruton
9.45 Famous for 15 Minutes: Jenni Mills talks to *Mark Lester* who starred in the 1968 film, *Oliver!*
10.00-10.30 News; Good Wives (FM only), by Louisa May Alcott (4/6)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 Revelations of Divine Love (LW only), by Julian of Norwich. Read by Hannah Gordon (11/12)
10.30 Woman's Hour looks at Victorian governesses; funding for women in the arts; and flares. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 From Our Correspondent
12.00 You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Looking Forward to the Past: *Paul Boateng, MP*, chairs a light-hearted *historical* discussion between Lady Antonia Fraser, John Walters, David Yip and Beatrix Campbell **12.55 Weather**
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Over the Rainbow: A comedy by Colin Morton and *Harry Sears*. The Crumley household descends into chaos when daughter Alma (Sinol Jenkins) is asked to appear on *television* (r)
3.00-4.00 Prime Minister's Questions (LW only)
3.00 Radio Lives (FM only): In the first of six portraits of radio greats, Phil Smith investigates Jimmy Clitheroe (r)
3.42 RSVP (FM only): Matthew Parris studies Henry VIII's letter to Anne Boleyn imploring her to be his mistress (r)
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope reviews the first night of *Crazy for You* at the refurbished Prince Edward Theatre and *Playland* at the Donmar Warehouse; and visits an exhibition in Bradford about trains in the Victorian era
4.45 Short Story: Hugo My Friend, by Gwyn Thomas. Read by Rhodri Hugh
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Deadlock: The Long Goodbye. Kathleen Turner stars as V.I. Warshawski in the final part of a dramatisation of Sara Paretsky's novel
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack: The Bill for Service
● CHOICE: This punning title cheapens a deadly serious documentary. What is more, it will leave some gourmet listeners feeling cheated if they are expecting to hear something about the cost of eating out. In fact, it is an account of a pilot scheme, called psychological de-briefing, to help police officers cope with traumas caused by the revolting sights that are almost daily occurrences for them, though a once-in-a-lifetime shock for the rest of us. *This therapy must be one* of the longest overdue innovations in the history of humanitarianism
8.00 Analysis: *Breaking Up is Hard* to Do. Peter Haynes looks at the future of the world's giant corporations
8.45 Does He Take Sugar? with Ted Harrison. For listeners with disabilities
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, *with* Robin Lustig
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Queen of the Tambourine, by Jane Gardam. *Read by Dorothy* Tutin (9/10)
11.00 Exocet: Third of a four-part adaptation of Jack Higgins's thriller set during the Falklands war. With Peter Jeffrey
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** World Service (LW only)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Classic FM: FM-100-102.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **6.00** Mark Goodier **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** Lynn Parsons's Mega Hits **6.30** News '93 **7.00** Evening Session with Claire Sturgess **9.00** In Concert: Misty in Roots at the 1992 Glastonbury Festival **10.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00-4.00am** Nicky Horne (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.00** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Chris Stuart **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** For *Better or For Worse* (4/8) **7.30** Wally Whyton remembers Patsy Cline **9.00** Paul Jones **10.00** Six Silver Strings: Charles Alexander presents guitar music (1/5) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Parade **12.35** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **7.00pm.** ***3.25am** Cricket: India v England from Gwalior* **7.00** Morning Edition Update **7.45** Cricket: India v England **9.15** Schools: Together — An Assembly for Schools **9.35** Cricket: India v England **11.15** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **12.30pm** Kitchen Cabinet **1.05** *Schools: Let's Make a Story; **1.20** Listening and Reading 2, **1.30** The Song Tree — Music* Course 1; **1.45** In the News **2.10** A Game of Two Halves **4.30** Five Aside **7.15** Esio Trot, by Roald Dahl. Read by Clive Swift (r) **7.30** Formula Five **8.00** Vibe! **9.30** Red Devils: A football drama by Debbie Horsfield (2/10) **10.10** Eastern Beat, incl **11.00** Sport **12.00-12.10am** News: *Sport **3.25-7.00** Cricket: India v England*

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** World Business Report **4.40** Travel and Weather News **4.45** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **5.59** Weather **6.00** News ***6.14** Travel News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes* in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Network UK **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** The Farming World **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News **10.01** *Assignment **10.30** Much Binding in the Marsh* **11.00** Newsdesk ***11.29** Travel* **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **11.59** Business Update Noon News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 2 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: Yakshi **2.45** Recording of the Week **3.00** News **3.15** Classics with Kay **4.00** News ***4.10** News About Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News in French **4.30** Programmes in German* **5.00** News and Business Report **5.14** Travel **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Programmes in French **6.00** News **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** News **8.10** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.10** News About Britain **10.15** Network UK **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News ***11.05** World Business Report **11.15** Music* Review **Midnight** News **12.30am** Eastern Sounds **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Seven Seas **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** News **2.30** The Man in Black **3.00** News **3.10** News About Britain **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** News **4.15** Mastersingers

CLASSIC FM

6.00am** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00 Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Boccherini (Cello Concerto in B flat: Pablo Casals); Mendelssohn (Symphony No 4) **3.00** Alan Mann **5.00** Classic Reports with Margaret Howard **7.00** Classic Travel Guide **8.00** Classic FM Concert: The LPO *during the post-war* years and the fifties **10.00** Adrian Love **1.00-5.00am** Robert Booth

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Canadian sprinter caught up in fresh controversy after reports of positive test

Johnson denies new drug allegations



Johnson: new allegations

By David Powell
Athletics Correspondent

BEN Johnson, who failed a drugs test at the 1988 Olympic Games after winning the 100 metres, was embroiled in another doping controversy yesterday. A newspaper close to Johnson's home in Newmarket, Canada, alleged that the athlete had tested positive again for evidence of performance-enhancing steroids. Johnson has denied it.

Johnson was said by *The Toronto Star* to have been tested three times in Canada between January 15 and 19: on the first two occasions in competition and, the last time, at random out of competition. Testing took place at the International Olympic Committee accredited laboratory in Montreal, it was said.

It was understood, the newspaper reported, that one of those urine samples produced a positive test for high testosterone or was suspicious enough to prompt officials to request that Johnson should undergo another test, which was positive. Three independent, unnamed sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, allegedly confirmed to the newspaper a positive test.

Johnson hired the Toronto law firm of McMillan Binch, which issued a statement denying any wrongdoing by the sprinter. "Mr Johnson denies taking any prohibited substance or engaging in any improper practice since his return to competition," it read. "Neither Mr Johnson nor his representatives have been notified of any positive test."

The Toronto Star alleged that Johnson, who returned to competition after serving a two-year ban, was abusive when approached for comment before publication.

Athletics Canada, the national governing body, denied any knowledge of a failed test, both in the newspaper's report and again last night. "We would have been informed if there had been a positive A sample," Brian Langley, the chairman of Athletics Canada, said.

Any positive A sample, he added, would be reported to Athletics Canada so that an official could be present for the testing of the B sample. Under the rules of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), the world governing body, the athlete also has the right to be present at B sample testing.

Jayne Pearce, an IAAF spokeswoman, said: "We have no confirmation of a case involving Ben Johnson." Should it eventually be announced that Johnson failed a test, yesterday's statements could be seen as an IAAF and Athletics Canada move to protect the world indoor championships due to begin in Toronto a week tomorrow.

Johnson, 31, was not selected for the championships, despite producing recently some of his best form since Seoul, where the 1988 Olympics were held. He had been predicting outstanding results. "I am going to shock the world again one more time," he said in January. However, he withdrew from the national indoor championships on February 19, citing a hamstring injury.

Johnson's disgrace at the Seoul Olympics was, and remains, the biggest doping scandal in sport. At a Canadian inquiry into drug use in sport, he admitted to a decade of steroid abuse.

Yesterday's allegations brought renewed calls for the urgent introduction of blood testing and life bans for first offences. The present method of testing is considered unsatisfactory because the development of masking agents to cover anabolic steroids has increased.

Blood testing is believed to be capable of detecting drug abuse stretching back over a long period and some IAAF grand prix meetings this summer are planning to adopt them for the first time. They are also likely to be used at the winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer next year.

A tribunal is to investigate the recent refusal by John Ngugi, the five-time world cross-country champion, to take a drugs test. Ngugi was suspended by the IAAF last week after refusing to provide a random dope test last month.

Johnson's life and times, page 42

GRAHAM MORRIS



Game for a laugh: Gooch, the England cricket captain, adopts a snooker stance to play croquet in Gwalior yesterday. England can win the one-day series against India today

Gascoigne gets one-match ban

By Our Sports Staff

PAUL Gascoigne, the Lazio and England midfield player, has been suspended for one match after being sent off in an Italian league game at the weekend. The decision has ruled Gascoigne out of the club's next league match, at Parma on Sunday, but leaves him available for the glamorous home fixture with the league leaders, AC Milan, on March 14.

"The punishment has been decided. He has been given a one-match ban," a Lazio spokesman, Mario Pennacchia, said.

Gascoigne was dismissed for the first time in two years at the Luigi Ferraris stadium last Sunday after a confrontation with the Genoa midfield player, Mario Bortolazzi. The incident happened in front of the England manager, Graham Taylor, who had been in Italy to discuss Gascoigne's future with the player and Lazio officials.

Taylor, however, cleared Gascoigne of any blame for the dismissal and promised it would not affect his England career. "Had the Italian stayed on his feet, the decision could easily have been reversed," Taylor said. "I'm glad I was here to have the advantage of seeing it all for myself."

Lazio won 3-2 at Genoa, despite Gascoigne's departure, the fourth of his career.

Pennacchia also confirmed that Gascoigne would miss three Lazio matches later this season if England select him for forthcoming international matches. If called up by Taylor, he will be absent for Lazio's home matches on March 28, before England go to Turkey, April 25, before the game against Holland at Wembley, and May 30. England play in Poland on May 29 and four days later face Norway in Oslo.

Malcolm Allison was last night replaced as chief coach at struggling Bristol Rovers because of ill health. The move is initially on a two-match basis, but has already prompted speculation about his future with the club.

Allison has been confined to bed suffering from a chest complaint since last weekend's 3-0 home defeat by Watford. That result left Rovers in a perilous position and the player-coach, Steve Cross, has been put in charge for the next two games at Notts County this weekend and Derby the following Saturday.

Rovers' assistant secretary, Ian Wilson, said yesterday: "The decision to replace Malcolm Allison for the next two games was made today by the board. I do not know what will happen after that."

Organisers fine 13 for slow practice

By Our Sports Staff

THIRTEEN players were fined £100 yesterday for slow play while practising for the Mediterranean Open at El Saler, Spain, which starts today.

They were deemed to have taken too long over their rounds but were not named by John Paramor, the tournament director. However, Bernhard Langer, of Germany, admitted to being one of them and José Maria Olazábal, the champion, was believed to be another.

A tougher stance over slow play is also to be introduced on the US PGA Tour at the Doral Open in Miami this week. Players in the field, which include Nick Faldo, will be fined $1,000 and lose a shot for up to three violations of the rule in a round. A fourth would lead to disqualification.

The new ruling was asked for by the players. Langer, twice a winner of the Spanish Open at El Saler, said: "Out of 144 players [the number taking part], I think 139 will break the rules in a practice round. It is not pleasing but we made them so we have to go along with them."

Paramor said: "Players were complaining in Morocco a fortnight ago that practice rounds were taking too long — as much as five-and-three-quarter hours — so we have decided to police them as well as the tournament itself.

"We wanted to have a purge but the players were warned first. Copies of the regulations were posted very clearly on a noticeboard by the first tee in English and Spanish."

The regulation states players may only hit a second ball if they have missed the green with their approach shot. They are also allowed three chip shots from around the green.

Eamonn Darcy, the Irishman, welcomed the move. "Practice rounds have been taking for ever," he said. "It's about time something was done."

Umpires empowered to act in event of crowd trouble

From Peter Ball in Gwalior, India

INDIA went into the fifth one-day international here this morning aware that any crowd trouble could yet jeopardise their position as joint hosts of the 1995-6 World Cup.

Cammie Smith, the International Cricket Council match referee, summoned India officials to a meeting yesterday to discuss the security arrangements for the final two one-day internationals today and tomorrow after a missile was thrown at Devon Malcolm in Jamshedpur on Monday.

Agreement on a series of measures in the event on trouble was reached between Bob Bennett, the England tour manager, Chendappa Nagaraj, the secretary of the Indian cricket board, two local officials, the Gwalior superintendent of police and the two umpires, P. D. Reporter and A. V. Jayakaprash.

"It was a very positive, productive meeting," Bennett said. "We made it clear that what happened in Jamshedpur was not acceptable, and the Indians understood quite clearly that there can be no recurrence of those incidents."

Both the remaining matches are 25,000 sell-outs. There will be a cordon of police inside and outside the perimeter fence. Part of the problem at Jamshedpur was the failure by police to act, but with any repetition of trouble likely to bring India's right to stage the World Cup — in conjunction with Pakistan and Sri Lanka — into question, Gwalior police are likely to adopt a much higher profile.

"I am confident there won't be the sort of problems there were at Jamshedpur," Nagaraj said. In case his optimism is unjustified, the meeting also agreed a detailed plan in the event of trouble.

England's threat to walk off the field if necessary has been abandoned in return for a formal structure giving the umpires the right to halt the game. The captains will report any incident to the umpires, who have the authority to suspend play temporarily or take the players off the field. The captain will have the right to put his view of what the response should be, and if he does not accept the umpire's verdict he will have the right to appeal to the referee, whose decision will be final.

Neil Fairbrother, Alec Stewart and Mike Gatting reported fit yesterday, and England have named the same 12 for the match today. They lead 3-1, and can settle the six-match series with a victory.

Whatever their limitations in Test cricket, England have again demonstrated their competence in the shorter game. India, by comparison, look far less comfortable.

Fairbrother's recovery, in particular, is important for England. He has played the crucial innings in two of England's three victories so far. "I think he is the best one-day batsman around at the moment," Keith Fletcher, the England manager, said after Fairbrother's match-winning performance in Jamshedpur, pointing in particular to the left-hander's skill at pacing his innings under pressure.

With the four one-day games so far going with the toss, India will be hoping for a change of fortune in that area, but England will be disappointed if they do not get the victory they need today or tomorrow as a farewell to their captain, Graham Gooch, who leaves for England on Saturday while the rest of the team goes to Colombo for one Test match and two one-day internationals against Sri Lanka.

ENGLAND (from): G A Gooch (captain), R A Smith, A J Stewart, G A Hick, M W Gatting, N H Fairbrother, C C Lewis, D A Reeve, P A J DeFreitas, P W Jarvis, D E Malcolm, J E Emburey.

MORSE

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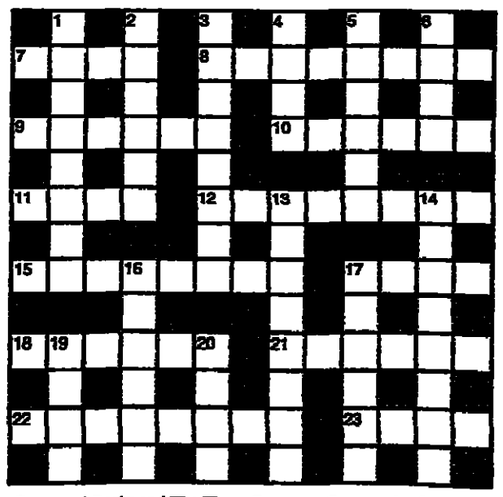
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ACROSS
7 Abstain from eating (4)
8 Worship of images (8)
9 Weak in old age (6)
10 Protect (6)
11 Boast (4)
12 Keep under surveillance (5,3)
15 Adversary (8)
17 Paddle (4)
18 Offended (6)
21 Glowing coals (6)
22 TV charity marathon (8)
23 Racing toboggan (4)

DOWN
1 Mention famous friends (8)
2 Polo horses group (6)
3 Pub proprietor (8)
4 Cargo area (4)
5 Wordy speech (6)
6 Light machine gun (4)
13 Finally (2,3,3)
14 Too young (5,3)
16 Out of tune (3,3)
17 Shake (6)
19 Mountain goat (4)
20 Roald -, author (4)



SOLUTIONS TO NO 3036

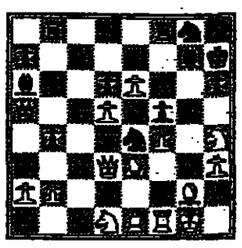
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DOWN: 1 Oxbow 2 Thought 3 Crystal gazing 4 Border 5 Unputdownable 6 Queue 7 Equator 12 Hostess 14 Nightie 15 Bishop 17 Cameo 19 Bidet

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WINNING MOVE

Current world champion Gary Kasparov's style of play is highly reminiscent of the brilliant Alexander Alekhine, whom Kasparov has always claimed as his intellectual mentor. This position is from the game Alekhine — Fletcher, London 1928. Alekhine was blessed with a fantastic tactical imagination, and here he put it to good use, crashing through to mate his opponent. Can you do as well? *(Raymond Keene)*



Solution on page 39.

WORD WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

EUPAD
a. An antiseptic dressing
b. Having good feet
c. EC Advertising Commission

SKIDOO
a. Après-ski revelry
b. To leave hastily
c. A beacon bonfire

JUS COGENS
a. A High Court judge
b. A distilled alcoholic juice
c. Over-riding international law

QUIRLEY
a. Homosexual
b. A hair style
c. A hand-rolled cigarette

Answers on page 39